

The Crumb

The Daily Bulletin of the Bread Loaf School of English in Vermont

Volume 95, Number 1

June 24, 2014

Events, Occurrences, Happenings, Developments, Situational Phenomena

Tuesday

Registration begins – 9 am
Library Orientations – 2 + 3 pm
Welcome Banquet – 6 pm
Opening Ceremony – 7:30 pm

Wednesday

Classes begin!
All-School Meeting
– 5 pm in the Barn

Thursday

“Bringing it Back”
– 7 pm Barn 1

Pond Reading – 9 pm

Friday

Revising Prose Workshop
w/ John Fyler – 10 am Barn 2
Senior Meeting – 3 pm Blue Parlor
Students of Color Reception –
7:30 pm, Dragon's Den

Tasty Vittles!

Lunch: Pulled pork, Spicy chickpea sauté, cornbread, potato salad, steamed broc + cauli, soup du jour (“That’s the soup of the day.” “Mmmm, that sounds good, I’ll have that.”)

Dinner: Grilled Chimichurri Steak w/ fried onions, Eggplant Gateau, shrooms, onions, spinach, rst’d red peppers w/ veggie quinoa, Buttermilk mashed potatoes (BOOM), green beans

Weather:

BL Staff Meteorologist Edward Brown’s left hip is calling for mostly sunny /partly cloudy today with a significant chance of scattered showers. High of 79!

Stick a plastic bag in your purse or pack (for your books) in case you get caught out in it. Raincoat or umbrella doesn’t hurt as a constant companion in this mountain microclimate!

Benediction

Yes. We’re here. Breathe deeply. Allow the order and disorder cacophonating in your minds from challenging, invigorating lives, the daily negotiation with the mundane, long flights and longer drives, fights for the illusion of control, the white bull, the cup that’s full, and too full, fall through you to pool in the bottoms of your feet before it seeps right into the floorboards. Whatever it is, it will keep. Now we’re here. Yes.

Registration Nation

Please visit our literal logistical operational command center, located in the Blue Parlor, which is a fun little room with old furniture and a blue carpet located down a ziggy-zaggy corridor on the West side of the Inn, at some point before 3:45 pm today! This is where you get your classes, parking passes (write down the license plate number if you don’t know it), and financials figured, not to mention the opportunity for sassy literary banter while waiting in line with your fellow Loafers.

Library Orientations at 2 pm and 3 pm today at the Dave

This is time well spent peoples. Davison Librarians will be on hand at 2 and again at 3 today to help you set up your logins and passwords, teach you how to feed your MIDCAT, navigate the Reserve section (something about congress), walk you through the “Book Delivery System” (if it sounds awesome, it’s because it is), and take you to the Apple Cellar, which is hands down the coolest place on campus and the best spot for panicked, last minute revision meltdowns.

“Bringing it Back,” sponsored by the Bread Loaf Teacher’s Network

What do you bring back to your teaching from Bread Loaf? What do you bring back to Bread Loaf from your teaching? Supercharge the summer conversations about teaching by coming to Barn 1 Thursday Night 7-8:30 p.m. Refreshments. All welcome. Sponsored by BLTN.

Book Store Hours: Mon-Fri, 8:30 am – 4:30 pm

Symbolism

Join one and all for the official Opening Ceremonies in the Burgess Meredith Theater following dinner this evening. Ritual gathering to mark significant events is a fundamental part of being human, affecting the forming of our conceptions of time, impacting the subjective quality of our experiences in dramatic ways. Humans speaking to humans with purpose and meaning is part of how we make that magic mountain feeling. Plus cookies and lemonade!

Inn the Know

The Front Desk of the Inn is both a Palace of Knowledge and a Fortress of Wisdom. Front Desk Staff Edward and Victoria Brown, Peter Newton, Kalli Federhofer, Matt Fiorentino, and MacNair Randall are the guardians of this Temple. They can see through windows you thought were walls. If you don't know what you don't know, these professionals and Bread Loaf grads will tell you. They also know their way around the literary landscape and can roadmap your essay out of Purgatory if you're really, really nice. On that note, check your mailboxes! The waves of self-satisfied pleasure you'll feel when you finally build enough fluency to open your mailbox on the first try is even better than finding a whole bunch of quarters already in the washing machine. B T Dubs, if you need quarters for the washing machine, guess where you go. Front desk phone x2700.

Keeping the Ship Afloat

Even Prospero's books are no match for Elaine Lathrop, Karen Browne, Melissa Nicklaw, and Dana Olsen. These ladies make it all happen. How? I honestly don't know. I can't even think of anything funny. They can help you switch your courses, make an appointment for you with one of the Directors, or even show you how to "fax" something. Any queries pertaining to letters of recommendation, fellowships, or transferring credits should be directed to Melissa Nicklaw. You may find them in the BL Main office next to the Blue Parlor or, for Dana Olsen, the Inn West Seminar Room.

Journal Submissions

Volume 2 of the Bread Loaf Journal, Writing from the School of English is accepting submissions from all current Bread Loaf students in poetry, fiction, non-fiction, and critical essays. You should have a link to a dropbox in your email, or you can get in touch with editors Sarah Getchell, Jessica Filion, and John Oliver. Journal Submissions will be closing in two weeks!

Tweetloaf - #blse14

It's not just for the birds outside your window at four thirty in the morning. Peer or professor totally blow your mind? A riveting line of verse driving through your eyes and into your thorax like a bare bodkin or unfortunately vague witch's prediction? Deep thought? Cookies in the Barn?

The Nature of Things

The muted majesty of rolling hills crafted by eons of tectonic tempests, glacial gouging, human action and human inaction, the incalculably elegant ballet of photosynthesis, the carbon cycle! We are blessed to be in a dynamic and dizzyingly graceful ecological system here on the Green Mountain Ridgeline. And yet, spending long hours tempted in our garden can also lead to a painful, horrible knowledge, a horrific fall of innocence that begins with a bite. Yes, I'm talking about black flies ladies and gentlemen. They follow a swirling flight pattern as you amble among the meadow grasses, often attempting to land right on the back of your head. They take a piece of you with them and leave you with week-long welts, which, by some miracle of natural chemistry, are simultaneously painful and extremely itchy. Oh, how I have known this pain. Here's a tip to help you enjoy the lung-expanding, soul-filling landscape despite these pesky but (probably) necessary members of the food chain: Hats help. But most of all, carry an extra shirt or small towel with you which you can lightly wave / swing about you. You will not swat them, they will not leave you alone, but they will never be able to land, and thus never be able to harm you. Ever watch a cow's tail swinging on a hot afternoon? Watch the cows.

If you have an announcement for the Crumb or see a catamount or something hit me up at joliver@breadnet.middlebury.edu

The Crumb

The Daily Bulletin of the Bread Loaf School of English in Vermont

Volume 95, Number 2

June 25, 2014

Events, Occurrences, Happenings, Developments, Situational Phenomena

Wednesday 6/25

All-School Meeting
- 5 pm in the Barn
AUDITIONS!
- 7 pm Little Theatre
Ultimate Frisbee
- after dinner on the field

Thursday 6/26

"Bringing it Back"
- 7 pm Barn 1
Pond Reading
- 9 pm John's Pond

Friday 6/27

Revising Prose w/ John Fyler
- 10 am Barn 2
Senior Meeting - 3 pm Blue Parlor
Students of Color Reception
- 7:30 pm, Dragon's Den
American Hustle - 9 pm

Saturday 6/28

Silver Lake Hike!
- 10 am
Square Dance
- 9 pm

Mass Quantities:

Lunch: Teriyaki chicken thighs, Veggie stir-fry with tempeh, udon noodles, spring rolls (personal fave), cabbage w/ chilis, shrooms, spinach

Dinner: Mojo pork loin, Buttermilk-Leek Risotto (I know, right!), bean cassoulet, sautéed escarole (leafy green thing), rst'd asparagus with garlic...mmm, garlic...

Whether?

...To 'brella or not to 'brella...

As a low pressure system off the coast of Nova Scotia begins to spiral its way out over the Atlantic today, we're going to see high pressure down from Canada moving into the region. As if the first day of classes wasn't high pressure enough! Ba-dump!!
.....Yeah, it's gonna rain.

Brains like Books

Happy first day of classes everyone! As I'm sure you were all intellectually (if not yet emotionally) aware, the Loaf is anything but. Tonight's sudden reading onslaught usually feels...let's say abrupt. In the words of Douglas Adams: "Don't panic." Also, "Know where your towel is." There is so much to love here on the hill: the books, the conversation, friends, trees!, the meadow (oh, oh...the meadow), those slow ambles with an apple and your dog-eared Elizabeth Bishop - that is, if only you didn't have 300 pages of Faulkner to read for a brilliant man who may or may not have Stockholm Syndrome. Breathe, spend some mirror time on your intellectual hand gestures, and get to work - one thing at a time. Remind yourself the work is why we're here. Lean in.

Almost everything that truly helps us grow feels at points like it's crushing us. There may come a time in your summer when you will ask yourself, "Why?!? Why have I done this to myself? I could be home binge-watching Orange is the New Black!!!" Love the struggle. Love it as fiercely as you can. Make the struggle your joy. To quote Tom Hanks playing a drunken women's baseball coach: "It's supposed to be hard. If it wasn't hard, everyone would do it. It's the hard that makes it great."

Thanks for all the fish.

The Impossibility of Conventional Tragedy

Come one, come all! Auditions for this summer's production of Shakespeare's Troilus and Cressida, directed by Brian McEleney, will take place on Wednesday, 6/25 (tonight!) at 7:00 p.m. in the Little Theatre. There are numerous roles for all ages, races, genders, and experience levels. You are encouraged to bring and read a Shakespearean monologue of your own choosing; however, if you don't have anything you want to read, sides can be provided for you upon arrival. There will also be opportunities for non-speaking roles and for those who play musical instruments. Whether you have years of theatrical experience or it's just something you want to try for the first time - we'd love to see you at the auditions!

Book Store Hours: Mon-Fri, 8:30 am - 4:30 pm

Tweetloaf - #blse14

"Bringing it Back," sponsored by the Bread Loaf Teacher's Network

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All the world's a stage, not a parking lot...so, if you could, ya know, that'd be great...

Please do not park your cars along Route 125 (that's the hilly bendy one with actual lines and pavement that brought you up the hill). Not everyone can do it, so there's the fairness bit. Plus it affects the pastoral aesthetic and obstructs the flight patterns of red-tailed imaginary barn swallows. Also, just don't. ☺ The zones in front of the Inn and 125 houses are for the temporary loading and unloading of passengers or personal goods and sundries. Totally use them for that. The "Big Lot" in front of the Barn is for the short and long-term storage of personal conveyance craft. Park there. Please, do it for the swallows.

Revising Prose w/ John Fyler

Every year I show my classes a 30-minute video, "Revising Prose," based on a book with the same title by Richard Lanham. I myself have found it to be an invaluable tool for revision, and for talking about revision with my undergraduate and graduate students, at Tufts and here at Bread Loaf. A number of Bread Loaf students over the years have agreed, and several have written me, sometimes years later, about how useful Lanham's "paramedic method" has been for their own writing and teaching. Several have also bought copies of the video and/or the book for use in their own schools. This workshop is intended to introduce "Revising Prose" to a wider audience, and to talk about the issues it raises as well as about the writing process in general. We have Barn 2 reserved from 10-12 on Friday morning (June 27), but I'm pretty sure we'll be finished by 11. - John Fyler

Brains like Yoga

Bread Loafer Sarah Olsen, a registered yoga teacher focusing on vinyasa for everyone, is offering FREE (WooHoo!!!) yoga classes for one and all. Monday and Thursday mornings from 6-7 am in the Barn, starting Monday June 30th. Bring a mat or breadnet if you don't have one. Sarah's breadnet name is currently Sarah Hoffman (not Olsen). Just keeping you on your toe poses.

Beverly Moss arrives in Vermont!

Beverly Moss, Coordinator of all Bread Loaf Writing Centers, is arriving today! Beverly is an Associate Professor of English at "the" Ohio State University where she teaches courses on composition, pedagogy, community literacy practices, and the rhetoric of Black ministers. She is fabulous to talk to. Stay tuned for more info on the Writing Center here in VT from Vermont Coordinator David Wandera.

I'm Gucci and Versace 'cause I know you're watching me

Bread Loaf 2014 T-shirt design contest starts right now. Put the fork down, pen, flip the napkin. Always wanted a moose and black bear jumping double-dutch with Frost and Virginia Woolf on a t-shirt? Meter and enjambment. Boom. Submit all designs to the Front Desk by Monday 6/30.

SportsLoaf

Any hippies wanna chuck the 'bee? Join yours truly and Promise Partner for some Ultimate Frisbee out on the field in front of Tamarack after dinner. All levels welcome. You don't have to know anything at all except how to be super positive while running a lot. Please wear shoes hippies. I will have cleats on. *Also, keep your eyes open for updates on BLFC (Bread Loaf Football Club) coming soon.

The Middlebury College Fitness Center and Natatorium (love that word somehow) are open for BL students! The schedules are easy to find online. Both gym and pool close at 8:45 pm tonight.

No such thing as a free lunch Off-campus students, please remember to visit the Front Desk for meal tickets!

The Nature of Things The Green Mountain orogeny occurred about 440 million years ago. It was earth-shaking.

If you have an announcement for the Crumb or see a catamount or something hit me up at joliver@breadnet.middlebury.edu

The Crumb

The Daily Bulletin of the Bread Loaf School of English in Vermont

Volume 95, Number 3

June 26, 2014

Events, Occurrences, Happenings, Developments, Situational Phenomena

Thursday 6/26

"Bringing it Back"

- 7 pm Barn 1

Pond Reading

- 9 pm John's Pond

(Thundertastrophe? Barn)

Friday 6/27

Revising Prose w/ John Fyler

- 10 am Barn 2

Senior Meeting - 3 pm Blue Parlor

Students of Color Reception

- 7:30 pm, Dragon's Den

American Hustle - 9 pm

Saturday 6/28

Silver Lake Hike!

- 10 am

Square/Contra Dance

- 9 pm

Sunday 6/29

Blue Parlor Reading

- 7 pm

Cuisine du jour:

Lunch: Beef horseradish wrap (Woot!) with lettuce, toms, and red onions, Garden veggie spinach wrap, Bulgur wheat salad, french fries, veggie-rice soup

Dinner: Greek chicken, Falafel w/ tzatziki sauce (get at me), Saffron basmati rice, sautéed kale (eat more), rst'd cherry tomatoes

Weather! Or not?

The mountain lay invisible under its blanket of mist, as if the world chose not look at itself, a mist in which possibility was absent, a nihilistic mist of nothingness.

Out of the mist emerged a traveler walking smoothly. He was difficult to define. The mist clung to him like guilt. He had no mouth. Only eyes - eyes shuddering, pouring, diluvian, eyes filled with rain.

"Bringing it Back"

What do you bring back to your teaching from Bread Loaf? What do you bring back to Bread Loaf from your teaching? Supercharge the summer conversations about teaching by coming to Barn 1 tonight 7-8:30 p.m. Refreshments. All welcome.

If you use digital devices like smartphones and tablets, please bring them with you tonight. No secret handshakes. Anyone with an interest in connections between Bread Loaf and teaching is welcome.

**** Editorial aside:** These dialogues are crucial for our evolving practice as teachers, so let's engage. Listen, Share, Learn, Teach. Barn 1 after dinner. See you there!

Pond Reading Tonight!

After the "Bringing it Back" meeting, trot home to grab a long-sleeve and your ID, then follow the paths leading down and away from the back of the Barn. Seek after the titter of voices and the flicker of fire as the darkening wood closes around you. You will find a bridge. Cross it with a pure heart. You will be entering a different space, a place where things are and are not what they seem, where reality feels a bit bent around the edges. Drink it all in. Bring fay dreams back to your bower.

Tonight's event will be hosted by the Waitstaff and facilitated by our lovely Director's Assistants. Remember your ID, forget your sanity. There will be smores. In the event of Thunderpocalypse, the reading will take place in the Barn.

Revising Prose w/ John Fyler 10 am tomorrow morning

Set your alarm clocks before you seek the sweet release of sleep tonight. John Fyler is facilitating a workshop on the "paramedic method" of revising the written word. Another arrow in your teaching quiver, another apple pinned with precision to your papers. Friday morning, Barn 2, 10-12 (though likely closer to 11).

Book Store Hours: Mon-Fri, 8:30 am - 4:30 pm

Tweetloaf - #blse14

David Wandera, inexorable Bread Loafer,

invites you to the Ken Macrorie Writing Center this summer. Share in the vast knowledge and experience our community has to offer. Fourteen of your peers are training to give you specific, efficient, and effective feedback. Writing Center opens on Tuesday 7/1. More info on hours, scheduling appointments, and highlights to come.

Banish plump Jack and banish all the world!

Meal business is a'changing for the weekend. Friday, Saturday, and Sunday mornings, breakfast will begin at 8:00, followed by lunch and dinner at the usual 12:45 and 6:00 respectively. All weekend meals are buffet-style. Waitservice resumes for dinner Sunday night. Dessert never takes a day off.

Fifty Shades of Submissions

The Bread Loaf Journal is still hungry for your poems, prose, and essays! Check your email today for a message from Dana Olsen with submission guidelines and a link to a dropbox. **Deadline = July 3rd.**

The Bread Loaf Fiction prize is seeking original fiction from current students. One sub per, no more than 10 double-spaced pages, no smaller than 10 point. Cash money award! To submit, email your piece to Karen Browne on breadnet. **Deadline = Monday, June 30th.**

The Robert Haiduke Poetry Contest is accepting up to two poems per writer, max 40 lines each. Same submission scenario: breadnet Karen Browne. The Poetry Contest will be awarding multiple cash prizes. Jingle jingle. As the irreplaceable George Carlin said, "If language is our servant, let's put that --- to work!" Entrance of work implies permission to print and distribute. **Deadline = July 17th.**

Tee shirt designs need to be submitted to the Front Desk by Monday morning. Turn of the Screw? Brains like books? Luke Skywalker and John Milton lightsaber duel? **Deadline = June 30th.**

CyberCrumb!

Roommate spill Mountain Dew: Code Red all over your precious collection of Crumbs? No worries! Simply write a note saying: *PLEASE SEE ME. We need to talk about your "paper." What I'm holding is completely unacceptable.* Sign the note as your roommate's professor and put it in their mailbox. Revenge achieved, you can then digitally access any Crumb any time on breadnet. Go to Conferences, click on CyberBarn, then CyberCrumb. So easy it only took me three days to figure out how to post them.

Blue Parlor starts this Sunday

Facilitators Sarah Getchell and Jessica Fillion invite you all to the Blue Parlor Sunday evening after dinner. For forty-five to an hour, lean in and listen to original work from Bread Loaf students. Work with a pulse. Time well spent. If you are interested in reading, track down Sarah and Jess.

Silver Lake and Falls of Lana

Matt Fiorentino is leading a group up to Silver Lake Saturday morning at 10 am. This is a short, easy-medium hike with major outcome-to-effort ratio. Only a short drive away, the trail runs steadily uphill, flanked by a series of cascading waterfalls and the pools they create known as the Falls of Lana (as scintillating as it sounds). Silver Lake sits at the top, alluring in itself, and with a stunning view of Lake Dunmore in the valley below. Sign-up at the Front Desk.

Futbal Mickey Lenzi and the Bread Loaf FC are going to be playing soccer on the lawn in front of Tamarack Tuesday nights at 7 and Sunday afternoons at 4:30. All skill levels welcome. When you come to play please bring a light/white shirt and a dark shirt (extra points for reversible pinnies) for splitting into two distinct teams. Mickey has BLFC t-shirts available for \$10. Also, his first touch is butter. See you on the pitch.

The Nature of Things The line of conifers angling eastward away from the Library, toward the Barn, are Norway Spruce (*Picea abies*), and were probably planted about 80 years ago. They typically can reach 180 ft in height. Norway spruce were tapped for "spruce beer," which was used to prevent and even cure scurvy. Shoot tips, in tea or topical form, can be used to treat a range of ailments, from respiratory illness to infection.

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The Crumb

The Daily Bulletin of the Bread Loaf School of English in Vermont

Volume 96, Number 4

June 27, 2014

Events, Occurrences, Happenings, Developments, Situational Phenomena

Friday 6/27

Revising Prose w/ John Fyler

- 10 am Barn 2

Senior Meeting - 3 pm Blue Parlor

Students of Color Reception

- 7:30 pm, Dragon's Den

American Hustle - 9 pm

Saturday 6/28

Silver Lake Hike!

- 10 am

Square Dance

- 9 pm

Sunday 6/29

Soccer!

- 4:30 pm, Tamarack lawn

Blue Parlor Reading

- 7 pm

Monday 6/30

Faculty Reader:

Paul Muldoon

- 7:30 pm, Barn

Belly-Bo-Belly:

Lunch: Spicy sausage marinara with penne, Marinated rst'd mushrooms, squash, edamame, Caesar salad, corn chowder

Dinner: All School Picnic on the West Lawn! Burgers, black bean and cow, grilled chicken, potato salad, watermelon. Bring a Frisbee! It doubles as a plate!

The best...

Bread Loaf Staff meteorologist and spiritual heartbeat MacNair Randall pronounced this morning today would be what's known colloquially as a "Vermont Sparkler." Don't forget the sunscreen while you and Chaucer get down in the grass. Rivers are running high and cold after the rain, perfect for a thirty second dip that'll take your breath away. Get your bliss on.

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Get your head measured

Seniors need to assemble in the Blue Parlor today at 3 pm to discuss caps and gowns, speakers and hooders, pleasure cruises, gifts, and to elect a class president. Victoria Brown will lay it down, helping her help you help her help you have the superlative graduation experience you desire. Confused? Wear something you're comfortable sitting on the floor in, hypoglycemics bring a snack. If you miss the meeting make sure to check in with the Front Desk for many points of important informational transaction. Don't know what you got 'til it's gone - You're irreplaceable.

Looking mighty fine

We've gone to plaid. First Barn dance of the summer on Saturday night, combination square/contral/line/folky/bluegrass-type of affair. Your one and only chance to see Django and Emily do a dosey-doe. Bring your ID if you wish to imbibe the tasty refreshments the DA's will be serving up at the bar while you're serving up a textbook promenade on the floor. The calls can come pretty fast, and what's funnier than watching a bunch of teachers struggle with directions? Also, this Saturday happens to be a certain Crumb writer's birthday, so let's bring it in with lots of hootin' and hollerin' and denim. I'm feeling like denim may be a big thing for me this year. (Abuse of monopolized media power for self-aggrandizement - I love this job. Seriously though, let's dance.)

Where there's smoke, there's sleepy, grumpy people in blankets

Public service announcement: Before enjoying the life-giving warmth and je ne sais quoi ambiance of crackling woodfire in any of the Loaf's many functional fireplaces, please check to make sure the flue is open. Most have a soot-blackened metal lever. These may be closed at times during cleaning, bat removal (hypothetically!), or other maintenance. If a smoke alarm in your area does go off, you will know because it is mind-splittingly loud. Before 11 pm, call down to the Front Desk. After 11, call Edward and Victoria at x2710. Be safe and responsible with the fire, potent as desire. Otherwise we end up with a situation that's a "total wang." More on the philosophy of "wing and wang" to come.

Howes am I getting to Burlington?

Bread Loaf Alum Leslie Howes looking for a ride from BL to Burlington on Saturday afternoon. AND if anyone is interested in sharing a rental car for the summer that's also possible (relatively inexpensively). Please contact her at howesla@gmail.com (though it'll probably mean you also have to come to Burlington to add your name to the lease).

Wimbleloaf

Julia Woodward is organizing the prestigious and mercenary Bread Loaf Tennis tournament. Players may sign up as singles or doubles if two people sign up together (our algorithms for matching partners based on agility, style, thoughts on Faulkner, propensity for racket throwing, and personality compatibility currently never existed). All players must sign up by Wednesday, July 2nd, right outside the dining hall. Direct all inquiries to jwoodward@breadnet. Love-love.

Give me your brains on paper

The Bread Loaf Journal is longing for your poems, prose, and essays! Check your email today for a message from Dana Olsen with submission guidelines and a link to a dropbox. **Deadline = July 3rd.**

The Bread Loaf Fiction prize is seeking original fiction from current students. One sub per, no more than 10 double-spaced pages, no smaller than 10 point. Cash money award! To submit, email your piece to Karen Browne on breadnet. **Deadline = Monday, June 30th.**

The Robert Haiduke Poetry Contest is accepting up to two poems per writer, max 40 lines each. Same submission scenario: breadnet Karen Browne. **Deadline = July 17th.**

Tee shirt designs need to be submitted to the Front Desk by Monday morning. Troilus and Cressida riding a moose? Virginia Woolf cleaning her windows? **Deadline = June 30th.**

Top Ten reasons to love Phoebe Green-Lewis

By popular demand, the Crumb will be resurrecting the weekly "Top Ten" lists. Because she is super-ridiculously smart, has an ear for ire, and because it was her idea, Phoebe Green-Lewis will be our Top Ten guru. Just another reason to read the Crumb (This one goes up to eleven).

Sunday Soccer and Blue Parlor – Pitch and Parlor, 4:30 and after dinner respectively. Yes, you should.

Silver Lake and Falls of Lana – Take a selfie at the top tomorrow and send home with caption: "How was the traffic on Woodward this morning?"

Beyonce Knowles Appreciation Club – Saturday after the dance find yours truly to put a ring on it.


American Hustle – Got a thing for comb-overs? Matthew McConaughey earned an Oscar for this one. The DA's will be putting him up on the big screen in the Barn starting at 9 pm tonight.

The Nature of Things

Like yin and yang, the *wing* and *wang* is less a knowledge and more a governing dynamic of the cosmos. Some definitions. We are probably all familiar with the concept of a "wing man" or "wing mate." This is not only someone who flies into battle (potentially against Cylons) with you, someone who watches your back, but also, more popularly, a person who helps set up good things for you (not necessarily romantic in nature, though that it was in that meaning that the term took colloquial root). A *wing* is a positive cosmic catalyst or facilitator. Then we have the *wang*. The *wang* is whatever is obstructing your harmony. The *wang* can sometimes be an intentional act, but more often is the result of incalculable factors too complex to map. Woken from slumber to brain-gouging fire alarm? Wang. Flat tire when you've left the perfect amount of time to get to class? Wang. Friend leave an orange in your favorite study nook, knowing you'd be by? Wing. Now, lest we overly simplify existence with some sort of ridiculous dichotomy, we must observe that in every *wing*, there potentially lies a subtle *wang*. Roommate talking you up a little *too* much to an object of desire? And every *wang* holds within it the potential to *wing*. Walking to class because your tire is flat, the cocktail of anxiety and wonder at the natural beauty around you creates a dynamic internal tension. This unusual mental/spiritual state results in sudden clarity. The pain and the enjoyment and the enjoyment of pain flow into an understanding that yields the greatest Robert Frost paper ever written. Wing and Wang peoples. That's the nature of things.


If you have an announcement for the Crumb or see a catamount or something hit me up at joliver@breadnet.middlebury.edu

From:  **Joseph Hill**

Tuesday, July 01, 2014 9:34:46 AM 

Subject: Re(2): Writing center links, for the Crumb

To:  **John Oliver**

Cc:  **CyberCrumb**

That's the link to the weekly schedule. It's probably not printable in the Crumb and is linked to the other link, too (now I have "Chain of Fools" stuck in my head -- which fact makes me very happy). If there is some way to make use of it, great, but otherwise, no cause for alarm. David would probably be glad to see the times for the walk-in appointments published; they are visible and highlighted on that schedule.




I don't know how to CC in Breadnet, or I would ask him now. Let's do this: publish the main link (booknow.so/blwc) now, and I'll make a more manageable/printable list for the next issue, one you could cut, paste, and publish.



Thanks again,

Joey

John Oliver writes:

>no problemo -- i got the scheduling link from David as well. What is
>the second one, the smartpublish business?

From:  **Joseph Hill**
Subject: Writing center links, for the Crumb
To:  **John Oliver**
Cc:  **CyberCrumb**

Tuesday, July 01, 2014 1:15:10 AM  

Thanks, John, for publishing this.

I'm sa dad-blamed tar'd I feel 'bout like a mashed bug.

<http://www.booknow.so/blwc>

<http://publish.smartsheet.com/1bb629465a734c3f84215a5b11ebb6f8>

The Crumb

The Daily Bulletin of the Bread Loaf School of English in Vermont

Volume 96, Number 6

July 1, 2014

Events, Occurrences, Happenings, Developments, Situational Phenomena

Tuesday 7/1

World Cup US v. Belgium

- 4:00 pm, Dining Hall

Soccer!

- 7:00 pm Tamarack

Students of Color Mtg.

- 7:30 pm, Blue Parlor

Karaoke Night in town

- around 9ish @ Two Bros.

Wednesday 7/2

Welcome Navajo VP Rex

Lee Jim and Dwight Largie!

Ultimate Frisbee

- 7:00 pm Tamarack

Navajo Kentuckians

- 7:00-8:00 pm, Barn 2

Thursday 7/3

Welcome Andover

Bread Loaf!

Senior Meeting

- 5:00 pm, Blue Parlor

BLTN

- 7:00 pm, Barn

Pond Reading!

- 9:30 pm, John's Pond

Friday 7/4

International Forum

- 9:30 am to noon, Barn 1

"Reading the Photograph in

Victorian Poems" w/ Isabel

Armstrong, 10 am, Barn 2

"Psycho" hosted by Tyler Curtain

- 9:00 pm, Barn

Lessons and Carols

- dark, John's Pond

Marinate on this:

Lunch: Italian subs,
Marinated eggplant parm,
onion rings, veggie salad w/
zucc, squash, red peppers,
white beans, cauliflower

Dinner: Mu shu chicken,
Veggie pad thai w/ mung
beans and leeks, mu shu
veggies, snow peas, cabbage,
spinach sauté

Hot wet blanket:

Nothing I can do to
sugar-coat this, and if I did it
would dissolve in the ambient
humidity (Condense into cotton
candy clouds?). Today will
probably feel like you're
wearing a pair of hot, sweaty,
cheese sandwich pants and a
garbage bag blouse. Only
thing to do in 80% humidity
is turn the tables on it and go
for 100% - BOOM. See you in
the river. (AC in Apple Cellar!)

Andover Bread Loaf Writing Workshop July 3 at 7 pm in the Barn

Members of the Andover Bread Loaf Writing Workshop (ABL) will visit Bread Loaf-Vermont this week to celebrate the 27th anniversary of this outreach program of Phillips Academy and the Bread Loaf Teacher Network. The July 3 event will feature Lou Bernieri (BL '87), founder and director of ABL; Navajo Nation VP, Rex Lee Jim (BL '01), speaking about food equity, activism, and the Navajo Kentuckians; and others. The meeting will connect Bread Loaf teachers who are using writing, poetry, performance, shared inquiries, and digital media to engage young people as writing leaders and advocates for change.

<http://wp.me/p3NDRh-do>

BREAD LOAF INTERNATIONAL FORUM July 4 Barn 1 9:30 - 12

Writing around the World will feature Bread Loaf alumni Pat Echessa-Kariuki (Nairobi); David Wandera (Nairobi/Ohio); Mohsin Tejani (Karachi); Lee Krishnan (Mumbai); Rex Lee Jim (Navajo Nation); Chantal Kenol-Desmornes (Haiti). All have led ABL/BLTN workshops in their schools and cities, conducted BLTN exchanges across difference, and directed outreach projects in their schools, assisted by Rich Gorham, ABL co-director at all intl sites; Ceci Lewis; and Sam Swope.

Attend one or both events: plan virtual exchanges and local and international partnerships with students at the center.

Like a Donkey on a Waffle

Co-Head Waiter Sara Griesbach will be setting up the projector in the dining hall today for the US v. Belgium game at 4 pm. On it! Sara, for the good of a nation, you once more step forward and do a double flip-throw-in, header-to-bicycle-scissor-kick-upper-ninety past the goaltender of my heart. Untz! All are welcome, please just respect that at 5-5:30 the waitstaff has to start setting up for service and eat themselves (Well, not "eat themselves" - this isn't autocannibalism - Oh, Cards Against Humanity...).

Bookstore CLOSED Friday, July 4th – We thank you Christa @ the Bookstore, purveyor of wisdom and tools!

You come too

We are open for business! Who? **The Ken Macrorie Writing Center**. Schedule a session online at <http://www.booknow.so/blwc> Or go online to find out when and where you can come for walk-in sessions.

Keeping it Frosty

Kara McCabe is organizing the "The Occasional Robert Frost Society," the latest iteration of critique and appreciation for our dear friend Robert. Those who might wend through fields or woods, stop by a tuft of flowers, weep with phoebes, step into their own, luxuriate in silken tents, or stab a draft horse, meet Kara and other good neighbors on Sundays at 2 pm in the Blue Parlor. This Sunday will begin with *A Boy's Will*.

Perfect Pitch – Go 100%

Work off that marinated zucchini after dinner tonight on the Tamarack field with Mickey and the Bread Loaf Football Club. This is a fun game for all skill levels, so come on out and kick around what used to be an inflated pig's bladder or human skull (Seriously true, it's on the internets. Soccerballworld.com/History: Adjacent villages would face off, trying to kick a human skull into one or the other's town square. Also in "Early Ball History," *balls were dependent on the size and shape of the pig's bladder. The more irregular the bladder, the more unpredictable the behavior of the ball was when kicked.* And you know what that means? Someone had to blow up that pig bladder...with their mouth. Gross!...Gross?). Bring a light and a dark shirt for easy team manipulation and don't forget a water bottle. Again, only way to combat 80% humidity is to beat it at its own game. Go 100%.

Navajo VP Rex Lee Jim (BL '01) will lead a session about the Navajo Kentuckians Wednesday, July 2, Barn 1, 7-8. "There is magic happening in the field of the Home God (Navajo Nation. AZ). This is the story of one such carefully tended idea: The Garden of the Home God Food and Digital Literacy Workshop, which began on the Navajo Nation in February, 2013. At this workshop, Navajo and Kentucky students formed a community to plan an investigation of food-related issues on the Navajo Nation and in Kentucky communities. These investigations have yielded a greater understanding of home and the world, and we have begun to share this knowledge with others." Bread Loaf teachers and students from several other communities have joined the Navajo Kentuckians: All welcome. navajokentuckians.com

Yes, I'm sure they have "Wagon Wheel"

Head on down to Two Brother's Tavern in Middlebury tonight for Karaoke! Ignore my somewhat snarky headline! (I just don't want anyone else to sing it before I can.) This is a really fun way to see your classmates shine in new (multicolored) lights. Turns out guy from your Romantic Poetry class you thought quietly reserved was actually just conserving his manna for a Jack Black-esque supernova performance of Led Zeppelin's entire catalogue. Please remember, this is not a Bread Loaf-sponsored event, and if you're getting down to town make sure you have a safe and solid ride back up the hill. Ms. Suzanne Callis is your contact for this today and your competition tonight. No joke, girl's got pipes.

DAs seeking DJs – If you've got the killer 80s soundtrack for Saturday Night hit up DA Adam Musser. **MJ!!!**

The Nature of Things

If you've crossed the road and looked out on the meadow after dark the last few nights, you've been treated to what seems like whole constellations of fireflies winking in and out in the grass. Fireflies are beetles that use the bioluminescent chemicals contained in their abdomens to attract mates. Both male and female fireflies create light. Some scientists believe the light also serves to warn predators of the fireflies' terrible taste, as even sexually immature larvae "fire." Fireflies are omnivorous, feeding by both predation and collection of pollen and nectar. Females of one particularly pernicious genus, *Photuris*, use their superawesome light-making powers to mimic the courtship patterns of other species of fireflies, attracting gullible males who are swiftly devoured. The great majority of fireflies, however, are merely blinking to get lucky. Up all night (Only six Crumbs before first Daft Punk reference!).

The enzyme fireflies produce that glows when in contact with ATP, magnesium, and oxygen, is called luciferase, or luciferin. Oh dark angel, "how fall'n! how chang'd / From him, who in the happy Realms of Light / Cloth'd with transcendent brightness didst out shine / Myriads though bright" (PL.1.84-87). Check out the meadow tonight. Maybe *we* will get lucky, and the fireflies will still be in courtship, still mimicking the heavens above with their astral farce, their humanly compelling struggle toward an immortality long lost, lost when we left the stars, lost so we could become who we are, so we could wonder at fireflies.

If you have an announcement for the Crumb or see a catamount or something hit me up at joliver@breadnet.middlebury.edu

The Crumb

The Daily Bulletin of the Bread Loaf School of English in Vermont

Volume 96, Number 7

July 2, 2014

Events, Occurrences, Happenings, Developments, Situational Phenomena

Wednesday 7/2

Welcome Navajo VP Rex
Lee Jim and Dwight
Largiel!
Ultimate Frisbee
- 7:00 pm Tamarack
Navajo Kentuckians
- 7:00-8:00 pm, Barn 2

Thursday 7/3

Welcome Andover Bread Loaf!
Senior Meeting
- 5:00 pm, Blue Parlor
BLTN
- 7:00 pm, Barn
Pond Reading!
- 9:30 pm, John's Pond

Friday 7/4

International Forum
- 9:30 am to noon, Barn 1
"Reading the Photograph in
Victorian Poems" w/ Isabel
Armstrong, 10 am, Barn 2
"Psycho" hosted by Tyler
Curtain - 9:00 pm, Barn
Lessons and Carols
- dark, John's Pond

Saturday 7/5

Bristol Falls Excursion
- 1:45 pm
80s Dance!
- 9:00 pm, Barn

Delicioumatudes:

Lunch: Chicken wings
with bleu cheese, Black bean
burgers, sweet potato fries,
spinach salad w/ red onion,
mushrooms, apples, cider
mustard vinaigrette,
strawberry soup!

Dinner: Spaghetti
Bolognese, Butternut white
bean sauté w/ polenta,
escarole, carrots

Calm before the:

Hot and gorgeous for
most of the day, per usual.
Check your windows,
however. Looks like we're in
for our first heavy hitter
thunderstorm of the summer
this afternoon and evening.
Severe downpours and winds
gusting up to 60 mph are
likely. Skies should clear by
tonight. Check the batteries in
your flashlight (never know...)



85 / 66

Sweep up your Crumbs

Readers of this humble, daily contribution to the annals of the very finest English language literature ever conceived by the hand of man or eyes of gods, I plead you for a binding contract, a commitment, a pinky-swear, that you shall not break lest fate remove its velvet glove and henceforth bring you only its iron nails in all future dealings. PLEASE DO NOT LEAVE YOUR CRUMBS ON THE TABLES AFTER LUNCH. ☺ It actually impairs efficient waitstaff clean-up quite significantly. Also, there is no recycling bin in the bus station so at times these hallowed pages might very well end up IN THE TRASH! Horror! Take your Crumbs with you. Use them as bookmarks. Construct origami owls. Throw them directly into the recycling bin in the lobby of the Inn. But please sweep 'em up behind you. Thanks team.

Bristol Falls Excursion this Saturday, 1:45 pm

Matty Fiorentino is leading another Saturday adventure this week to Bristol Falls, where the New Haven River drops into a deep pool about 18 miles up rt. 116. Some of the most excellent swimming and rock jumping around (Always use **extreme** care if/when jumping into rivers, even in "safer" spots! Never jump without scouting the landing 'cause rivers change. Not a solo activity. Bring a buddy!). Come prepared to sit, swim, and frolic. Following the river, the group will be stopping for creemees at the Bristol Creemee Stand, which this Crumb writer can tell you is *actually* the very best creemee stand in the Continental US. To the uninitiated, "creemee" is Vermont for soft serve ice cream, though the limits of language inhibit any true expression of a creemee's inherent nature, its pregnant joy.

Rex Lee Jim leads a discussion on "a carefully tended idea"

The Garden of the Home God Food and Digital Literacy Workshop Tonight, 7 pm, Barn 1.

Dr. Quinn, Medicine Woman

Remember that show?? Loafer Lizzie Quinn is looking for a ride to Burlington tomorrow, arriving up there around 11 am and staying for at least an hour. The drive up the Champlain Valley is a pastoral pleasure and I can tell you that Lizzie is a superlative conversationalist, especially on subjects of significance. And Burlington my home, cuts quite the dashing figure dressed up in its summer suit. Hit up Lizzie. Might change your life.

Chipman Inn puts its suspenders on and props the door

The proprietors of Ripton's Chipman Inn want Bread Loafers to know that they are open when their sign light is on, starting 7 or 8 pm most evenings this summer. Join the commons in their congenial Taproom for refreshment, fireside stories, and song alongside bits of history like Robert Frost's snowshoes, which hang above the mantle. Carharfts or cravat, all are welcome. Perfect for guests or family looking for the authentic Vermont B&B experience.

Everyone deserves music

Lloyd Miller, Crumb favorite, returns this year to organize the Bread Loaf Singing Group. First meeting is TODAY! Lloyd encourages any and all who feel moved to make more harmony together to gather in the Barn at 5 pm following the close of classes. Bring whatever small, portable instruments you like, including but not limited to guitars, ukuleles, fiddles, harmonicas, tambourines, fizzigibets, and penny whistles. Bring songs!

Bookstore CLOSED Friday, July 4th – We thank you Christa @ the Bookstore, purveyor of wisdom and tools!

Andover Bread Loaf Writing Workshop July 3 at 7 pm in the Barn

Members of the Andover Bread Loaf Writing Workshop (ABL) will visit Bread Loaf-Vermont this week to celebrate the 27th anniversary of this outreach program of Phillips Academy and the Bread Loaf Teacher Network. The July 3 event will feature Lou Bernieri (BL '87), founder and director of ABL; Navajo Nation VP, Rex Lee Jim (BL '01), speaking about food equity, activism, and the Navajo Kentuckians; and others. The meeting will connect Bread Loaf teachers who are using writing, poetry, performance, shared inquiries, and digital media to engage young people as writing leaders and advocates for change. <http://wp.me/p3NDRh-do>

BREAD LOAF INTERNATIONAL FORUM July 4 Barn 1 9:30 - 12

Writing around the World will feature Bread Loaf alumni Pat Echessa-Kariuki (Nairobi); David Wandera (Nairobi/Ohio); Mohsin Tejani (Karachi); Lee Krishnan (Mumbai); Rex Lee Jim (Navajo Nation); Chantal Kenol-Desmornes (Haiti). All have led ABL/BLTN workshops in their schools and cities, conducted BLTN exchanges across difference, and directed outreach projects in their schools, assisted by Rich Gorham, ABL co-director at all intl sites; Ceci Lewis; and Sam Swope.

Keep it current with #BLTN – Bread Loaf Teachers Network is on social media. Hashtag get connected.

Check it before you Chuck it

We'll check in around dinner to see if the weather will permit any Ultimate Frisbee today. Lightning can arrive pretty quickly in the mountains, so we'll be careful before going all Johnny Storm on it.

The Nature of Things

Emily Navarro spotted a moose last night! 8:45 pm off of Route 125. She says it was a little baby but the crunching in the woods indicated Momma was nearby. Moose are striking animals and being in their presence is a serious thrill. An adult can stand seven feet high at the shoulder and weigh 1500 lbs, making it the second largest animal in North America or Eurasia (Bison). You will find they are more active around dawn and after dusk. Remember that a moose is an enormous, powerful, wild animal, and mothers with young or rutting bulls can be especially dangerous. They don't corner well, but moose can close short distances with astonishing speed and may charge or strike out with their forelegs if feeling threatened. As with any wild animals, it is important to keep a safe distance and always leave them an out, so they don't feel cornered. Visit the Vermont Fish and Wildlife website or simply google "Moose in Vermont" for their moose fact sheet. Slow night drives headed East on 125 toward Hancock will bring you past some marshy areas that moose are known to frequent. Good hunting! And if you are walking late at night, and do not wish to meet a moose or black bear, I suggest singing a song with a light and easy tone. They will stay out of your way. Happy Wednesday.

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The Crumb

The Daily Bulletin of the Bread Loaf School of English in Vermont

Volume 95, Number 8

July 3, 2014

Events, Occurrences, Happenings, Developments, Situational Phenomena

Thursday 7/3

Welcome Andover Bread Loaf!

Senior Meeting

- 5:00 pm, Blue Parlor

BLTN

- 7:00 pm, Barn

Pond Reading!

- 9:30 pm, John's Pond

Friday 7/4

International Forum

- 9:30 am to noon, Barn 1

"Reading the Photograph in

Victorian Poems" w/ Isabel

Armstrong, 10 am, Barn 2

"Psycho" hosted by Tyler Curtain

- 9:00 pm, Barn

Lessons and Carols

- dark, John's Pond

Saturday 7/5

Bristol Falls Excursion

- 1:45 pm

80s Dance!

- 9:00 pm, Barn

Sunday 7/6

Frost Reading Group

- 2:00 pm, Blue Parlor

NER Reading, Rochester

- 5:30 pm, BigTown Gallery

Blue Parlor Readings

- after dinner, Blue Parlor

What's cooking:

Lunch: Vegetable Mexican
Pizza, Southwestern Chicken, corn,
pepper sauté, spanish rice, sour
cream, salsa, guacamole

Dinner: Grilled Balsamic
Steak, Grilled Vegetables, rst'd
garlic mashed potatoes, rst'd tomato
lentil salad w/ quinoa

Promise Weather

It is currently 10 am (the past!) and 75.2°F with 79% humidity and barometric pressure of 29.89 in, yielding an apparent temperature of 76°. The temp will rise throughout the day until about 5:30-6:00 when the rain begins. Supposed to get some big ol' T-storms, which would necessitate the Pond Reading moving into the Barn. But we were supposed to get a window-shaker yesterday and that never really materialized, so... BL meteorologist Becky Findlay contends the storm moved away because Promise Partner was up at Pleiad yesterday and, if we're going to take anything on faith, let's just say that the universe loves Promise Partner. Smart universe. Pack a raincoat!

84 / 64

Welcome Andover-Bread Loafers!

Don't miss the workshop in the Barn tonight at 7:00 pm. Speakers include: Lou Bernieri (BL '87), founder and director of ABL; Navajo Nation VP, Rex Lee Jim (BL '01), speaking about food equity, activism, and the Navajo Kentuckians; and others. The meeting will connect Bread Loaf teachers who are using writing, poetry, performance, shared inquiries, and digital media to engage young people as writing leaders and advocates for change.

Jamaica Kincaid on the Mountain Monday

Jamaica Kincaid will be joining us at Bread Loaf on Monday. The much-beloved Antiguan-American author and Vermont resident will reading in the Barn at 7:00 pm. A special table will be set for her and eleven others at dinner in the dining hall on Monday night preceding the reading. Sign up for one of those seats on the board outside today!

Before you dream of Chaucer

Remember to set your alarum bells. Tomorrow morning there are two intellectually invigorating opportunities in which you may wish to take part.

Bread Loaf's International Forum will be taking place in Barn 1 from 9:30-12. Writing around the World will feature Bread Loaf alumni Pat Echessa-Kariuki (Nairobi); David Wandera (Nairobi/Ohio); Mohsin Tejani (Karachi); Lee Krishnan (Mumbai); Rex Lee Jim (Navajo Nation); Chantal Kenol-Desmornes (Haiti).

At 10 am, Isabel Armstrong will be leading a workshop entitled "Reading the Photograph in Victorian Poems." The workshop will meet in Barn 2.

The Bread Loaf Journal: Writing from the School of English

The Journal will be accepting submissions until midnight tonight. Speak with Jessica Fillion, Sarah Getchell, or yours truly w/ ?s.

The End Approacheth – Seniors, you have an eschatological meeting today at 5:00 pm in the Blue Parlor.

Critical Crumb Correction

There is still room to sign up for the Excursion to Bristol Falls on Saturday! Crumb Editor John Oliver would like to formally and publicly apologize to goddess-woman and heart-shaped rock-finder MacNair Randall for incorrectly reporting that Matty Fiorentino would be leading the Loafers on the jumpy, swimmy, creemee bliss parade this weekend. Matty and MacNair will be alternating, so if you have questions (or just want some great perspective on work or world) seek MacNair behind the Front Desk. (Just realized: I never *look* for MacNair. I *seek* her.)

NER Vermont Reading series at the Big Town Gallery in Rochester, VT this Sunday July 6th

July 6, 5:30 pm: The NER Vermont Reading Series is pleased to team up with the BigTown Gallery in Rochester, VT, for a special event featuring poets **Terri Ford** and **Jamaal May**. This summer gathering at the gallery will celebrate live readings and the people who value them most, creating a link between two of Vermont's most lively reading series and from one side of the Green Mountains to the other. NER is arranging for transportation over the mountain — if you'd like a ride, please email nereview@middlebury.edu. Seating is limited! This reading is followed by a special catered reception in the garden. RSVP to BigTown Gallery, and see their full summer reading schedule for more events. <http://www.nereview.com/ner-vt-reading-series/#sthash.1jwrmM3M.dpuf>

Aside: Read the bios on these poets. This reading looks extremely sweet. And, as SS says, "Bread Loaf's got a cat in this race."

Et tu, Bocce?

Crumb darling Jeff Price and yours truly have teamed up to roll balls with precision and alacrity. Don't miss. Sign up on the board outside the dining hall for the Bread Loaf Bocce Tournament, which very likely could be called "Put Some English On It," though I've no reason to think that might be true besides its inherent fitness. For deets contact Sara Griesbach or Riddick. "The fault, dear Bocce, is not in our stars, / But in ourselves." Get prepared to pay the Price!!! Boom! (I am sooo bad at bocce, which I feel should really *not* be the case, yet is.)

Try pulling a comb through it on Tuesday, John

Bread Loaf Photographer, Ladder Performer, and Cat Herder Edward Brown will be taking the All-School picture out across the road in front of the Inn at 12:25 pm on Tuesday, after class gets out and before lunch. Find your BL besties and everyone get ready to "Blue Steel" the camera all at once. Sung Bae, you can "Magnum." The Faculty Photo will be taken directly after lunch at 1:30 pm.

Pond Reading Tonight hosted by Larch – Is good situation

Barring deluge and diluvium, make your way down to John's Pond at 9:30 tonight for fire, cheer, a mysterious faculty reader, and, as always, the incomparably elegant and woody prose of Joseph Battell (I actually mean that. On scales of elegance, there is literally no one I can think of with whom comparison to Old Piney would be intellectually possible.) If the rain is coming down an inch an hour or Thor and Zeus are having an animated debate about who has the larger lightning bolt, the wordmaking will proceeding in the Barn. Remember identification if you wish to partake in libation. (Rolling off the tongue! Why am I so, so, so bad at bocce! Gah!)

The Nature of Things

If you do any off-path tramping this summer, especially along the edges of fields and meadows, you may encounter *Urtica dioica*, commonly referred to as Stinging Nettle. Colloquially, the plant is also known as *burn nettle*, *burn weed*, and *Owthisreallysucks weed*. Nettle is an herbaceous perennial that can be anywhere from 3-7 ft high in the summer. The soft green leaves are 1-6 inches long and are borne oppositely on an erect, wiry green stem. The leaves have a strongly serrated margin (edge) and lots of little "hairs" on them. The hairs are the owy bits. When touched, their tips come off in your skin and inject a bunch of chemicals into you, causing a burning, stinging feeling. If you do get stung, don't panic! Look around for orange flowers. One of the nettle's common neighbors is jewelweed. Jewelweed is a smooth annual; 3-5 ft. Leaves oval, round-toothed; lower ones opposite, upper ones alternate. A bit trumpet shaped, the flowers hang from the plant much as a jewel from a necklace. Pale Jewelweed has yellow flowers; Spotted Touch-Me-Nots have orange flowers with dark red dots. The seeds will 'pop' when touched. More importantly, the sap-juice that you get when you break the stem and leaves is the antidote to stinging nettle. And they often grow right next to each other. Nature!!! Awesome. Jewelweed sap is actually useful for nearly all skin irritants, from mosquito bites to poison ivy (which, incidentally, I have not seen here. Anyone? Poison Ivy? Anyone?). Both nettle and jewelweed have been used medicinally by human beings for a superlong time. Nettle as a diuretic, anti-inflammatory, and even glycemic control for folks with diabetes. Jewelweed for dealing with nettle, etc, and as a survival food. If you find some jewelweed (it grows around here for sure) carry some stem and leaves around with you. Can't hurt.

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The Crumb

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- 2:00 pm, Blue Parlor

NER Reading, Rochester

- 5:30 pm, Big Town Gallery

Blue Parlor Readings

- after dinner, Blue Parlor

Monday 7/7

Jamaica Kincaid

- 7:00 pm, Barn

Today it's for real:

Lunch: Vegetable Mexican
Pizza, Southwestern Chicken pizza,
corn, pepper sauté, spanish rice,
sour cream, salsa, guacamole

Dinner: Pork ribs, chicken
fritters, kale (personal fave), sweet
potatoes, black eyed pea sauté, corn
on the cob

Cooling out:

Welcome back from the
sweatbox everyone. Significantly
cooler today than the last few. Some
scattered showers in the morning,
just pleasantly spitting at us a little
bit, and then loveliness the whole
rest of the day (as long as you don't
mind 93% humidity, that is - soggy
cookies). The weekend is looking
pretty fabulous too, 75 - 80 and sun
sun sun. The moon tonight will be a
waxing crescent, 41% visible. Just
wait until the waxing gibbous! The
strange and inexplicable visits
Bread Loaf under a waxing gibbous
moon. Just ask...well, no. I guess
you can't ask him anything...not
anymore. Under the gibbous moon.
Gibbous. Moon.



71 / 50

Happy Birthday America!

Perhaps of interest to a mountain full of writers, July 4th, 1776 was not the day the Declaration of Independence was written, not the day the Continental Congress decided to cast of the oppressive bonds of English tyranny in favor of our very own bonds of oppressive tyranny, and not the day Thomas Jefferson penned his lofty lines. July 4th was a full fifteen months after the fighting started. That big fancy copy of the Declaration on display in Washington with all the signatures on it? Actually physically signed sometime in August. So why the fourth of July? Took them 'til then to figure out where the commas went. July 4th, 1776 was the day they finished editing. Incidentally, no one really celebrated the fourth of July for the first 20+ years of America. Then, totally unlike anything that happens in politics today, one party seized on it in the 1820s in order to cast the other party as unpatriotic (or, even worse, pro-French). The fourth finally got some legitimacy when something really weird happened and both Thomas Jefferson AND John Adams died on July 4th, 1826. After that it was kind of a thing. And people would juggle cheese. Fourth of July, jugglin' cheese.

Top Ten books you must read before leaving the mountain

Embedded Crumb reporter and Top Ten guru Phoebe Green-Lewis has her first challenge of the summer. Here's how this works: As a group of some kind (ex: Annex, Larch, Waitstaff, DAs, woodchucks of Tamarack, etc), come up with your Top Ten of whatever that week's subject is and send them to top10phoebe@gmail.com. Phoebe will screen the submissions and, using a highly scientific method of 'compeltely arbitrary nepotism, select the winning entries to be printed in the following Friday's Crumb. First week's prompt: The Top Ten Books you must read before leaving the mountain. This is both serious and funny. Balance wisely. Or don't. © Juggle your chis.

Bristol Falls! Swimming and Creemees! Leaves tom! Front Desk!!!!

Frost picnic tomorrow at the Homer Noble Farm, 6:00 pm

However it is in some other world / I know that this is the way in ours. The entire community is warmly encouraged to head on down to our dear friend Robert's wayward libation shelter for a picnic on Saturday evening. The walk is about 20-30 minutes westward down 125 and quite pleasant, offering some nice up-close viewing of roadside wildflowers. Stay away from the wild parsnip. If you prefer to ride, the Front Desk staff will be shuttling folks starting at 5:00 pm. If you pilot your own conveyance, just know that the Frost road itself will be closed to all non-official shuttlevan-type craft. Storm troopers may or may not ask for your identification and to inspect your droids. Do not let them. Do not let them juggle your cheese. Please park in the 125 "Wayside" pull-off on the north side of the road and walk it from there (about 10 minutes). Tours of Frost's inner sanctum will begin @ 5:15 and occur every 15 minutes until the floors start creaking in creepy ways when no one is actually walking on them. Then we will recite Fire and Ice, bow, and back slowly out the then quickly padlocked door.

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Dough-Ray-ME – Join Maggie Bykowski in the Barn after lunch for 10-15 to organize a cappella. Not to conflict with the Bread Loaf singing group, some cats just gotta walk on broken glass. Breadnet for more.

Men in short shorts

If you have been asleep for the last 30 years, tomorrow night would be a good time to wake up. Follow the funky fresh, new age, ice cream flavored hair-do with some John Cusack syrup dribbled all over it vibes flowing from the Barn Saturday night. The 80s dance. The fever. The stimulating styles of DJs Lauren Ba-HED-dry and Melanie Corning, aka The Critical Theory. Try to find a little space in those really tiny pockets for indentification (funny?). Dress as Ronald Reagan. And yes, my own personal heaven, more denim.

If you live inside a whale

or on the top floor of the Inn, you're probably slowly adapting to stupefyingly mammalian heat and humidity. A tip before the organs and things inside your thoracic cavity thicken into a starchy paste: All of you, en masse (yeah that's French – take that anti-Declaration post-independence Federalists), open all your doors and windows at the same time. The cross breeze created will alleviate the worst of the baked potato scenario. It will also let you know who needs to leave their soccer cleats outside. Worth it. (As a former top-of-Inn liver, some years I don't think we closed our room doors at all in July...unless I was playing with my storm trooper action figures. That's just John time.)

Psycho

Tyler Curtain and good ol' Norman will be asking you uncomfortable questions about your mother tonight at 9:00 pm in the Barn. You may feel scared after. You may wish to bring a large butcher knife, just in case, as you walk back through the woods and terrorizing uncertainty of dark. You may stab out frantically in blinding fear at footsteps. Or you may unknowingly be walking close to someone who does. Who knows? The Nothing knows. It *sees* you.

Lessons and Carols – Song and story, word and whimsy around the fire tonight at John's Pond. 9:30ish...

The Nature of Things

Lightning is super bad for you. Storms can worm their way through gaps in the mountains and be right on top of us pretty quickly. If you hear thunder, and CERTAINLY if you see any lightning, move inside immediately. No joke. My house was hit by lightning. You do not want to look like my former TV or microwave. If you are out on the fields or in the woods and someone's like, "Oh, it's totally far away, let's keep chucking the -bee man," you need to be all like, "Dude, lightning is super bad for you. I'm going inside and so should you." If you are trapped out in a thunderstorm, immediately get down from elevated areas like hills or ridges. Do not lie flat on the ground and don't shelter under isolated trees. Get away from ponds, lakes, water in general. Mind anything that might conduct electricity, like fence wire. Also, lightning doesn't have to hit you to hurt. Air is a poor conductor, and thus heats up as the electricity in a bolt of lightning passes through it...to about 50,000 degrees Fahrenheit. The sun is 10,000 degrees. I'm not a doctor, but that's at least three times hotter.

If you have an announcement for the Crumb or see a catamount or something hit me up at joliver@breadnet.middlebury.edu

The Crumb

The Daily Bulletin of the Bread Loaf School of English in Vermont

Volume 95, Number 10

July 7, 2014

Events, Occurrences, Happenings, Developments, Situational Phenomena

Monday 7/7

Elizabeth Drew Lecture:
Jamaica Kincaid
- 7:30 pm, Barn

Tuesday 7/8

All School Picture - 12:25pm
Soccer! - 7:00 pm Tamarack
Jess Row Lecture
- 7:30 pm, Barn 1
Karaoke Night in town
- around 9ish @ Two Bros

Wednesday 7/9

Ultimate Frisbee
- 7:00 pm Tamarack
"Kill Your Darlings"
- 7:30, Little Theatre
Trivia Night, hosted by the
Senior class - 9:00 pm, Barn

Thursday 7/10

Panel Discussion:
Equity and Education
w/ Tim San Pedro and Keisha Green
- 7:30 pm, Barn
Pond Reading!
- 9:30 pm, John's Pond

Nom-nom-nom:

Lunch: Cuban pork
sandwiches, Lavash wraps w/
falafel, red peppers, cucumber
yogurt, Quinoa, chard, corn bisque

Dinner: Baked white fish w/
coconut-cilantro sauce, Saag paneer,
cauliflower, peas, tomatoes, basmati
rice

Weather patterns?

Bust out your argyle umbrellas
and paisley puddle-jumpers after
lunch today. Looks like the weather
this week is going to follow a
similar pattern to last: mostly sunny
with partial clouds in the mornings
the next few days, with chances for
showers and thunderstorms
developing in the afternoons around
four and five o'clock.

And again like last week, if the
butterflies in Tokyo all do what
they're told, our Friday, Saturday,
Sunday will be light, dry, and
gorgeous, like summerwine held in
a slender hand with just a hint of
citrus dance upon the tongue.

Thunderstorms should keep the
temperature from climbing much
past 75 - Zeus, thy rage dost cool
me. (Zeusy may be angry through
the night, so check your windows!)



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Bread Loaf Welcomes Jamaica Kincaid!

This summer's Drew Lecture will be given by much-loved author and Vermont resident Jamaica Kincaid this evening at 7:30 in the Barn. Born in St. John, Antigua, Kincaid now lives in North Bennington, VT and teaches during the academic year at California's Claremont McKenna College, where she holds the Josephine Olp Weeks Chair in the Department of Literature. Among many distinguished awards and recognitions, Kincaid has been inducted into the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, is a member of the American Academy of Arts and Letters, a winner of the Anifield-Wolf Book Award, and was a finalist for the PEN/Faulkner Award for Fiction in 1997. The staff of the Davison Library will be featuring an arrangement of Kincaid's works for browsing this week. Tonight should be an extraordinary opportunity to listen to and, later, speak with a person who has given immeasurably to the depth and breadth of American prose. See you there.

Jess Row: "White Flights: American Fiction's Racial Landscape."

Bread Loaf and the Students of Color organization welcome Jess Row, short story writer, novelist, associate professor of English at The College of New Jersey, and member of the international faculty for the MFA program at City University of Hong Kong to speak this Tuesday night at 7:30 pm in Barn 1 about how white writers construct Whiteness in American fiction. You may read his essay, "White Flights: American Fiction's Racial Landscape" published in the Boston Review at <http://bostonreview.net/us-fiction/white-flights>. The bookstore will have copies of his first short story collection, *The Train to Lo Wu*, and he will be available to sign books. Row's new novel, *Your Face in Mine*, forthcoming this August, is set in our near-future and tells the story of a White man who undergoes racial reassignment surgery in order to become Black. Early reviewers have called the novel "fearless, ambitious, unforgettable." <http://jessrow.com/> I expect the talk and discussion to follow will be similarly evocative and valuable as we engage increasingly in dialogue on the pluralist culture in which we live. Boom.

You're a tiger! You're Tony the Tiger! You're Grrrrrreat!!! ...And you! You're a giraffe!

Bread Loaf Staff Visual Image Capturist Edward Brown reminds everyone to meet promptly in the meadow ("promptly in the meadow" - Don't know why that tickles!) across the street from the Inn at 12:25 pm tomorrow for the All School Picture. Tell me about all the kale in my beard *before* the photo this time. Thank you. Faculty you'll meet following lunch at 1:30, lined up against the stone wall (sounds ominous). If raining, Edward will immortalize your all-night-Chaucer-paper hair on Wednesday.

Moral Crumbs (mostly not pretentious...)

A few friendly reminders to help you pad your karma stats and integrity quotients:

1) Please do not park along rt 125 for extended periods of time. The green zone is for the loading and unloading of persons, goods of such mass that the force gravity exerts upon them creates a transport of unnecessary arduousness, and any super-heavy ideas. **Especially please do not park in front of Bridgeman or Cornwall**, as the residents of these domiciles have had difficulty addressing their own green zone needs.

2) Though a rarity at Bread Loaf, litter still exists. Yours truly has picked up a couple pieces in the last week. *In* the mountain, let's strive to make an impact on each other's minds and hearts. *On* the mountain, the place at which that impact starts, aim for Leave No Trace. Also, please refrain from high-velocity, low-density forest composting (Throwing stuff in the woods). Thanks!

3) Tell a story of positive change at lunch or dinner today! Humans join in many ways. For today, if speaking of classmates or roommates or colleagues or, most especially, students, let our joining be strengths-based, affirming, invigorating. We make our culture here every day.

Top Ten Reminder: Phoebe Green-Lewis is still accepting your submissions for "Top Ten Books you have to read before leaving the mountain." Get out your kindle history and put some writ wit on it. Send to: top10phoebe@gmail.com. Winners will be posted in Friday's Crumb.

"Kill Your Darlings" (is metaphor?)

This Wednesday, 7/9, the Acting Ensemble will present a reading of an original play written by Bread Loaf and Crumb-favorite Mary Spence. *Kill Your Darlings* will be performed at 7:30 p.m. in the Little Theatre. All are welcome to attend. The play was a semi-finalist in the National Playwrights' Conference this past season, and Mary is looking for feedback/commentary from the BL community hive-mind. (I am going to this instead of Ultimate Frisbee. And you all know how much I love Frisbee.) If you go, you will probably walk away with all the people you love. But who will they decide to excise from the gene pool if you're not there? FOMOK (Fear Of Missing Out on Killing?). Seriously though, Mary is genius woman. Watch play. Feel. Make words.

Write up my Educator's Ally: Resume resumé

Thursday, July 10 from 9 am to 4 pm, Educator's Ally (www.educatorsally.com) is seeking candidates for English and Humanities teaching positions as well as administrator positions in independent schools in New York City, Connecticut, New York state, New Jersey and boarding schools throughout New England. Educator's Ally works solely with top tier independent schools. Educator's Ally is the pre-eminent New York area independent school hiring firm and is known for their highly personal approach to the hiring process. There are no fees charged to the candidate for help with the hiring process; the hiring school pays the fees. If interested in an interview, please sign up on the sheet outside Elaine's office.

Week 2 and counting The Writing Center is inviting you to its 2nd week in operation this summer. 14 peer readers are ready to work with you on that paper (fiction or non-fiction). Click here to learn more: www.booknow.so/blwc

The Nature of Things

Does chance exist? What does *exist* mean in that context? Do I view coincidence as evidence of or exception to? Dost I write the dreaded f-word: fate? Am I subconsciously a supercomputer capable of unthinkably complex algorithmic understanding? Am I stumbling through a chaotic, fractaled pattern along the edge of the iris of the divine eye? Can I just put question marks behind all the difficult thoughts, road blocks to statementhood and leave it at that? Why did Kara McCabe stop at Monroe St. Books on Rt 1 yesterday on her way to creemeeetown? Why walk halfway up the third book-bulging aisle and incline her exquisite head just so? Did the book know? Know she was coming? Are the lines somehow, someway, still alive? In what universe does a Bread Loafer with one cast pluck from the literary oceans a single, antiquated Ellen? For \$1??? And who, when (1909?), placed a pressed four leaf clover between the crisp pages? Luck? (Pine get lucky?) Are there odds? The metaphysical face of Pine? Is this the Nature of Things?

The Crumb

The Daily Bulletin of the Bread Loaf School of English in Vermont

Volume 95, Number 11

July 8, 2014

Events, Occurrences, Happenings, Developments, Situational Phenomena

Tuesday 7/8

Soccer! – 7:00 pm Tamarack
Jess Row Lecture
– 7:30 pm, Barn 1
Karaoke Night in town
– around 9ish @ Two Bros

Wednesday 7/9

Ultimate Frisbee
– 7:00 pm Tamarack
“Kill Your Darlings”
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Trivia Night, hosted by the
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Equity and Education
w/ Tim San Pedro and Keisha
Green – 7:30 pm, Barn
Pond Reading!
– 9:30 pm, John's Pond

Friday 7/11

“Transformation and Wonder”
in Finnegan's Wake – workshop
w/ Jennifer Wicke, 10 am, Barn 2
BLTN Action Planning
– 9 to 11, Barn 1
“Something Wild” screened by
Jonathan Freedman – 9 pm, Barn

The sustenance:

Lunch: Lemon chicken, Baba
ghanoush (boomsauce), pita, herb-
bulgur salad, tuscan bean soup

Dinner: Seared peppercorn
beef tenderloin w/ marsala sauce,
rice/lentil pilaf, brussel sprouts,
shitake gravy w/ polenta dumplings

Why bother

High pressure will be mixing
with some upper atmospheric
frustration, producing a strong,
class five barometric who-the-hell-
knows dynamism influencing our
weather system for the
indeterminate future. The
prognostications of this humble
meteorological novice have been as
inaccurate and useless as the Crumb
has been verbose. Gale force gusts
of shame and inadequacy. Basing
my predictions on the conclusions
drawn by real professionals (or at
least professionally programmed
computer algorithms) using data
collected from a weather station
right here on the Bread Loaf
campus would seem to be a path
toward control and efficacy in a
world of unsympathetic
chaos... what a sweet and dangerous
dream. Sniff the air and pack for
everything. Crumb out.

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Jess Row: "White Flights: American Fiction's Racial Landscape."

Bread Loaf and the Students of Color organization welcome Jess
Row, short story writer, novelist, associate professor of English at The
College of New Jersey, and member of the international faculty for the
MFA program at City University of Hong Kong to speak **tonight at 7:30**
in Barn 1 about how white writers construct Whiteness in American
fiction. You may read his essay, "White Flights: American Fiction's Racial
Landscape" published in the Boston Review at <http://bostonreview.net/us-fiction/white-flights>.

Row's new novel, *Your Face in Mine*, forthcoming this August, is
set in our near-future and tells the story of a White man who undergoes
racial reassignment surgery in order to become Black. Early reviewers
have called the novel "fearless, ambitious, unforgettable."
<http://jessrow.com/> I expect the talk and discussion to follow will be
similarly evocative and valuable as we engage increasingly in dialogue on
the pluralist culture in which we live. See you at 7:30.

The Agony and the Ecstasy-A Democratization of Assigned Meaning

Sara Griesbach, Head Waiter, Social Scientist, Naiad, and
Consummate Executive in the Corporation of Public Joy, will be opening
the dining hall at 4 pm today and tomorrow to project both semi-final
World Cup games. Today, Germany meets Brazil in what, in the long and
hallowed tradition of grossly oversimplified sports analysis built upon
nothing but clichéd and limiting generalizations of national identities,
should be a crucible of thunderous Art, the meeting of the efficient and the
elegant, the Apollonian and the Dionysic, united in rapturous conflict for
our viewing pleasure. Come all and all be one.

Welcome Michael Schoenfeldt and Patricia Sparks to the Mountain

If you see two new faces walking and talking the next few days,
they may be Mike Schoenfeldt from the University of Michigan and
Patricia Sparks, formerly from the University of Virginia and President
of the Modern Language Association. They are a part of our External
Review, meaning they're here to learn about Bread Loaf. Say hello!

As I Lay Snapchatting You...

The Senior Class is hosting **Bread Loaf Trivia Night at 9 pm in the Barn tomorrow** (Wednesday) night. Crumb Perennial Sara Griesbach and Lauren Ba-lotta knowledge in her-Hedry will be organizing and MCing. Please organize into teams of five if possible. The theme for team names is Literary Pick-Up Lines. "Baby, I like to take you to a room with a view...for dynamic, scintillating, and properly contextualized discourse." Leave the (non-literary) devices at home and crank up all that mental acumen and energy you've been conserving during classes this week for your shot at (totally non-trivial) Trivia Glory! (commence personal Braveheart-esque fantasy victory montage now) A reminder: personal alcohol may not be present at public, BL-sponsored events. Bring your own writing utensils (naked without one). Faculty, staff, and faculty children are welcome! There will be nine categories of differentiated difficulty, so something for everyone! (pick-up line?). See you Wed. at 9 pm.

The Banquet Scene

Seniors, Victoria Brown needs numbers for the Graduation Banquet by **today**. Please turn in the sheets you received with your names on them. There's no, like, "line," to prompt you to write your name, but, you know, write your name (teacher/students, student/teachers). Victoria needs the info to work her magic and make sure there's seats for half-mad kings, bloody ghosts, and your Uncle Larry at the Feast of Culmination. Thank you.

"Kill Your Darlings" (gotta do what you gotta do)

Tomorrow, Wednesday, 7/9, the Acting Ensemble is reading the Mary Spence original, *Kill Your Darlings* at 7:30 p.m. in the Little Theatre. I have no idea what this play is about. There is no way I'm missing it. Put your spoon in the mountain talent soup. Sip. Consider. Slurp. Grow. Return for more soup with bucket.

Write up my Educator's Ally: Resume resumé

Thursday, July 10 from 9 am to 4 pm, Educator's Ally (www.educatorsally.com) is seeking candidates for English and Humanities teaching positions as well as administrator positions in independent schools in New York City, Connecticut, New York state, New Jersey and boarding schools throughout New England. Educator's Ally works solely with top tier independent schools. Educator's Ally is the pre-eminent New York area independent school hiring firm and is known for their highly personal approach to the hiring process. There are no fees charged to the candidate for help with the hiring process; the hiring school pays the fees. If interested in an interview, **please sign up on the sheet outside Elaine's office.**

Jack and the Self-Misplacing Jacket – Former Crumb Editor and emotional genius Sam Swope has lost a light, beige, zippered jacket. Now he has to wear beige pants because all his other jackets are dark-colored and it just looks funny to wear a dark jacket with dark pants unless you are super emo or playing Prince Hamlet, which he is not. As stated before, Sam is an emotional genius. So if you find a light, beige, zippered jacket lying about or engaging in debate on the dash in Emily Dickinson poems, Manhattan in hand, grab it for Sam!

***Also:** It seems someone (anon.) took the wrong jean jacket home on Saturday night. If you have not-your-jacket, write the Crumb!

Equity and Education: Panel Discussion w/ Tim San Pedro and Keisha Green

Looking ahead to Thursday evening, make space to attend the BLTN-sponsored discussion of equity in our systems of educating youth. Join Tim San Pedro, author of *Humanizing Research: Decolonizing Qualitative Inquiry with Youth and Communities*, and Keisha Green, Assistant Professor of Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies at UMASS-Amherst, two extraordinary scholars of educational justice, in dialogue about their years of literacy, literature, youth media research, and teaching with young people and teachers in high school classrooms and community organizations. Django Paris will moderate. This is the stuff peoples. Ignite the mind. See you there.

The Nature of Things

Vermont is home to many bird species, both permanent residents and migrants, but none stir the unknown something I tend to locate in my chest so much as the red-winged blackbird. These blackbirds, *Agelaius phoeniceus*, are the keepers of the meadow, the marsh, the swamp, and, at times, my own sanity. They are common and lovely, abundant nearly year-round in Vermont, found especially in these mountain meadows in summertime, their breeding grounds. Medium-sized passerine with a sharply pointed, strong bill, and somewhat upright posture as they flit and sit atop milkweed stems, it is the male blackbirds who wear the characteristic jet with red epaulets and call out in myriad variation their distinctive song: "Koo-Ka-Reeeee, Koo-Ka-Reeee!" As the life-cycle of the flies begins to pass, spend some longer moments in the meadow getting to know my closest animal friend. Blackbird black to glide, flash red to fly.

If you have an announcement for the Crumb or see a catamount or something hit me up at joliver@breadnet.middlebury.edu

The Crumb

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Wednesday 7/9

Ultimate Frisbee

- 7:00 pm Tamarack

"Kill Your Darlings"

- 7:30, Little Theatre

Trivia Night, hosted by the

Senior class - 9:00 pm, Barn

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Panel Discussion:

Equity and Education

w/ Keisha Green and Tim

San Pedro - 7:30 pm, Barn

Pond Reading!

- 9:30 pm, John's Pond

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"Transformation and Wonder"

in Finnegan's Wake - workshop

w/ Jennifer Wicke, 10 am, Barn 2

BLTN Action Planning

- 9 to 11, Barn 1

"Something Wild" screened by

Jonathan Freedman - 9 pm, Barn

Saturday 7/12

Outdoor Adventure: TBA

Motown Dance

- take the trip w/ DJ Xander

9 pm, Barn

Survival Rations:

Lunch: Fire-pit roasted
mammoth thighs, Nettle-cattail
stew, grog-soaked wild onion, mush

Dinner: Italo Calvino's
Invisible Cities as a light appetizer,
followed by a Romantic course,
Milton and the Bible in a beurre-
blanc, Imaginary salad,
Tolstoyevsky pie

Giveth and Taketh

Mix of sun and clouds today
after our first real window-shaker
last night (I am hand-calligraphing
all of these Crumbs by the way).
We've had an exchange of the hot,
moist air of the last few days with
some dryer, cooler air and the high
today should be an ideal 75 with a
light breeze. The violence of the
exchange notwithstanding, we are
in for a very pleasant day. There's
about a 40% chance that some rain
and possibly even small
thundershowers may visit us later
this afternoon, dampening the I-
just-got-dry feelings, but they
shouldn't last long and the forecast
for the next three days is looking
clear, dry, and magnificent.

Moon watch: We have reached
WAXING GIBBOUS people! 88%!

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Welcome Michael Schoenfeldt and Patricia Spacks

Mike Schoenfeldt from the University of Michigan and Patricia Spacks, formerly from the University of Virginia and President of the Modern Language Association are visiting with us at Bread Loaf the next few days. They are a part of our External Review, meaning they're here to learn about Bread Loaf. Say hello! Wow them with your knowledge of 16th century patterns of knowledge construction or your (somewhat strangely?) specific fluency in the optimal mating conditions of fireflies. Draw pictures of your digital literacy projects in colored pencil!

I just can't do it, Emily! I don't have the...

Potency? Energy? Puissance? Might? Force? Potentiality? Agency? Efficacy? Anbaric Alacrity? The word (all-important beginning) is that electric power should be restored to us alpine bibliogicians sometime today. Despair not! THE WORK continues! Enlightenment! Take advantage of screenlessness while you can. As of now, all scheduled events will continue as planned, even if somewhat MacGyverly. Get creative! (Brain love book. Book love flashlight. Oog love fire.)

All things that we ordained festival...

Check on the board and at the Front Desk for info on the town of Middlebury's **Festival on the Green**. Live music every night!

"Kill Your Darlings" (Tonight, while it's dark!)

The Acting Ensemble will be performing a table reading of Mary Spence's *Kill Your Darlings* at 7:30 tonight in the Little Theatre. Even with the electricity out, the theater never loses power (cheesy and true - Remember when the lights went out during the closing night of Hamlet a couple years ago? With nothing but candles and the chandelier swaying in the wind, the cast re-blocked the show on the fly so as to stay in the light. Stephen was particularly incandescent as I recall. That's why we do it live!). Mary's play was a semifinalist this year at the National Playwright's Conference and she is looking to draw feedback from the well of critical genius around here to inform her revision. So be in love with your other plans, but don't marry them. See you tonight in any kind of light.

Orange is the New Blue – World Cup Semi today at 4 pm

Though Germany's blow out of Brazil yesterday is thought to have caused widespread power outages, we're going to try it again today at four in the dining hall for the Netherlands v. Argentina game, provided, of course, that the juice is back on. If not, we will all gather in the dining hall anyway and collectively guess what's going on – nice first mindtouch.

The nightingale? Nay, the lark? Lloyd and crew! BL Singing Group: Rehearsal today 5pm, Inn porch.

Equity and Education: Panel Discussion w/ Keisha Green and Tim San Pedro – Thurs. 7:15, Barn 1

Come join two extraordinary scholars of educational justice in dialogue about their years of literacy, literature, and youth media research and teaching with young people and educators in high school classrooms and community organizations. Green will discuss her long-term work with youth radio, literacy, and civic engagement and San Pedro will share his three-year collaborative research on centering Indigenous American knowledges in a high school literature class. We will have ample time for questions, ideas, and conversation with Green and San Pedro during the meeting. All members of the Bread Loaf community are welcome!

Keisha L. Green earned her PhD in Educational Studies at Emory University and completed a two-year Presidential Postdoctoral Fellowship at Rutgers University in the Graduate School of Education. In Fall 2013, Keisha joined the College of Education at the University of Massachusetts Amherst as an Assistant Professor of Secondary English Education. Her most recent study focused on the intersection of youth radio, literacy, and civic engagement. Select publications appear in *Race, Ethnicity, and Education*, *Equity & Excellence in Education*, *Reading African American Experiences in the Obama Era: Theory, Advocacy, Activism and Humanizing Research: Decolonizing Qualitative Inquiry With Youth and Communities*.

Timothy San Pedro is an Assistant Professor of Multicultural and Equity Studies at The Ohio State University. San Pedro focuses on the intricate link between motivation, engagement, and identity construction to curricula and pedagogical practices that re-focus content and conversations upon Indigenous histories, perspectives, and literacies. He worked with the Native American Next Step program in Arizona to expand Native American subjects and content in Phoenix-area schools as well as led professional development workshops on the Navajo Nation that co-constructed and co-envisioned lessons and pedagogical decisions to sustain and support the cultures of students. San Pedro serves on the National Council of Teachers of English Standing Committee for Research.

“Voulez-vous Foucault avec moi ce soir?”

Bread Loaf Trivia Night - 9 pm, Barn. Know the Ledge tonight. Teams of five. Theme for team names: Literary Pick-Up lines. No devices (99 problems but wifi ain't one). Nine categories. Prizes. Get stumped in the forest.

Write up my Educator's Ally: Resume resumé

Tomorrow, Thursday, July 10 from 9 am to 4 pm, Educator's Ally (www.educatorsally.com) is seeking candidates for English and Humanities teaching positions as well as administrator positions in independent schools in New York City, Connecticut, New York state, New Jersey and boarding schools throughout New England. Educator's Ally works solely with top tier independent schools. Educator's Ally is the pre-eminent New York area independent school hiring firm and is known for their highly personal approach to the hiring process. There are no fees charged to the candidate for help with the hiring process; the hiring school pays the fees. If interested in an interview, **please sign up on the sheet outside Elaine's office.**

Bread Loaf (W)Riding Center: Co-directors Edward and Kalli are hosting a ride Friday. Deets at the Desk.

So Dawn Goes Down to Day: Nothing gold can stay, so Elizabeth Micci and co. are going to catch it while they can. Join them 6am on the Annex porch, Tuesdays and Thursdays, for short dawn hikes (back by 7:15!). Putting a little more magic spread on their Bread Loaf sandwiches. Spirit sings sweeter than sleep. Mist blanket.

The Nature of Things

Of all the places we could be, Ripton, VT is probably one of the best equipped to handle significant rainfall. Serious forest with deep humus, very little pavement to increase velocity, healthy riparian zones to support flash flood control. That being said, many of us remember 5 years ago when 6" of rain came down in a couple hours and large parts of rt. 125 washed out. Be thoughtful. Also, pay attention when getting in and out of rivers after any rains. The power of water multiplies exponentially when the level's high. Love.

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- 9:30 pm, John's Pond

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"Transformation and Wonder" in Finnegan's Wake – workshop

w/ Jennifer Wicke, 10 am, Barn 1

BLTN REMIX Action Planning

- 9:30 to 11:30, Barn 2

"Something Wild" screened by

Jonathan Freedman - 9 pm, Barn

Saturday 7/12

Tweed River Tubing

- 10 am to 4 pm, Stockbridge

Motown Dance

- take the trip w/ DJ Xander
9 pm, Barn

Sunday 7/13

The Occasional Robert Frost Society

- 2 pm, Blue Parlor

Blue Parlor Readings

- after dinner, Blue Parlor

Victuals:

Lunch: Grilled reubens on rye, Veggie reubens on focaccia, fries, carrot salad (looks awesome), garlicky spinach

Dinner: Baked Salmon (Yes!!! I was formerly a grizzly bear), Arugula Pesto w/ angel hair, white bean/kale/mushroom medley, garlic toast

Font of Lucidity

Profound gratitude and humble ecstasy. Thank you to all of you non-bug-killers, frog-helpers, wounded-animal-nurser-back-to-healthers, coffee-to-your-roommate-in-bed-bringers, and last minute Modernist-paper-savers, for the karmic credit y'all have banked, resulting in the next three days of gorgeous-as-it-gets. Rare on a mountain stage that usually features so many players, often in violently dynamic dialogue, today, tomorrow, and Saturday look like one long solar soliloquy. Today's chance of precipitation: 0% (which I only list because a) absurd and b) the scintillating thrill of danger). Gods shall not be mocked, at least not when it's 72 and perfect. Standing O!

Moon watch: Crushing the shade - WAXING GIBBOUS 95%!

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Equity and Education: Panel Discussion w/ Keisha Green and Tim San Pedro – Tonight, 7:15, Barn 1

Come join two extraordinary scholars of educational justice in dialogue about their years of literacy, literature, and youth media research and teaching with young people and educators in high school classrooms and community organizations. Green will discuss her long-term work with youth radio, literacy, and civic engagement and San Pedro will share his three-year collaborative research on centering Indigenous American knowledges in a high school literature class. We will have ample time for questions, ideas, and conversation with Green and San Pedro during the meeting. All members of the Bread Loaf community are welcome!

Keisha L. Green earned her PhD in Educational Studies at Emory University and completed a two-year Presidential Postdoctoral Fellowship at Rutgers University in the Graduate School of Education. In Fall 2013, Keisha joined the College of Education at the University of Massachusetts Amherst as an Assistant Professor of Secondary English Education. Her most recent study focused on the intersection of youth radio, literacy, and civic engagement. Select publications appear in *Race, Ethnicity, and Education*, *Equity & Excellence in Education*, *Reading African American Experiences in the Obama Era: Theory, Advocacy, Activism* and *Humanizing Research: Decolonizing Qualitative Inquiry With Youth and Communities*.

Timothy San Pedro is an Assistant Professor of Multicultural and Equity Studies at The Ohio State University. San Pedro focuses on the intricate link between motivation, engagement, and identity construction to curricula and pedagogical practices that re-focus content and conversations upon Indigenous histories, perspectives, and literacies. He worked with the Native American Next Step program in Arizona to expand Native American subjects and content in Phoenix-area schools as well as led professional development workshops on the Navajo Nation that co-constructed and co-envisioned lessons and pedagogical decisions to sustain and support the cultures of students. San Pedro serves on the National Council of Teachers of English Standing Committee for Research.

Seniors shake your gory locks

Back to the Banquet Scene: Seniors, Victoria Brown needs your numbers for the graduation banquet so she can make sure your Aunt Vincent doesn't get stuck sitting on a flipped over rubbage bin. ASAP! :)

"Down to Foucault" goes home with Glory and a Box of Broken Dreams

Thanks to the Senior Class for the evening of cerebrum-stretching solution-synthesizing last night, especially to organizers Lauren Bahedry, Sara Griesbach, Jess Gard, and co. Fun had. The comingling of euphoria and shame reminded me of a scene from Cormac McCarthy's *On the Road*, but that's another story... More trivia upcoming! We'll do it again in two Wednesdays, on July 23rd. Future prizes include a copy of my unfinished novel, *Mimesis and Me: A Cautionary Tale*. Way to Foucault your way to the top guys.

Bread Loaf (W)Riding Center: Co-directors Edward and Kalli are hosting a ride Friday. Deets at the Desk.

Football Friday: Sweet Sweeper Micky Lenzi is taking the BLFC down to Middlebury College at 2pm on Friday to play a full-sided game on a regulation field. The woodchucks and gnats will temporarily need to find alternate entertainment. More fun with 11 on 11, so everybody go! Light and Dark shirt, per ushj (BLFC shirts still available!). Upper ninety.

What's the blend on that?

High thread-count, tagless, heather plum or heather black, thoughtfully cut. This is just to say: Get at me with a Bread Loaf t-shirt. The DAs have organized and ordered the next gen in English-Dork-Summer-Camp wear, great for starting conversations when you get home where you can gush about your transcendent and transformative experiences in a magical mountain land of gorgeous natural beauty and stimulating, inspiring genius people who just know how to have a conversation without you actually having bring it up. No humblebrag, you're just responding to a normal question about your t-shirt (Inception-style). Shirts are \$15 and totes (Totes! Do you ever feel like teaching means living a life of just carrying around lots of little nondescript bags?) are only \$7 (for reals!). Sign up to order pronto on the board outside the dining hall. July 15th is the order cut-off.

Remixing Bread Loaf in classrooms and communities!

Friday, Barn 2, July 10, 9:30 - 11:30 a.m. Hands-on working session: Connect with other Bread Loaf students and their students on texts and topics that inspire you, from poetry to good neighbors to performance to digital media publishing projects. Sponsored by BLTN.

Milk for gall: Mutually beneficial exchange

Jaclyn Wagner is facilitating a *Macbeth* Teaching & Lesson Exchange next Tuesday, 7/15, at 7 pm in Barn 1. The goal of the event is to have that one-on-one "sharing" experience on a big level, talk about best practice, strategies for teaching *Macbeth*, resources, etc. **In advance:** Email favorite/best *Macbeth* resource (lesson, critical article, worksheet, supplementary film title, etc) & sentence about why it's awesome to jaclyn_wagner@breadnet.middlebury.edu (Crumb aside: Students love it on day one when they see *Throne of Blood* on the syllabus. Just saying.)

For the night is dark, and full of terrors...

Escape your papercaves and defy the forces of doom with flame and mirth tonight down by John's Pond, hosted by the denizens of Tamarack. Tonight's Pond Reading will begin, as usual, with an invocation of piney wisdom, followed by wordpictures for your minds to cast against the backdrop of darkened trees. And smores. Remember to bring your identification if you desire libation. (Great Bread Loaf moment just occurred. In seeking an adjective form of "libation," such as in, "libational refreshment," my brain puts letters together to form the word "libidinous." But, I think, that means...right? I copy "libidinous" into my searchline and hit enter, resulting in the word, large font, and its definition now taking up about 72% of the total surface area of my screen. At this moment, Jonathan Freedman walks by, stops, points to screen, looks me in the eye, nods, walks on. Yes.) Extra layer may do too, clear tonight and maybe a mite chilly.

Tweed River Tubing: Sign up at the Front Desk for this Saturday's outing, an arduous day of lolling about on tubes while the Tweed River carries you on a tour of natural splendor. Leaves 10am, returns 4pm. Infinite capacity for this trip. Sunscreen.

The Nature of Things

Wildflowers are a lovely part of the summer treat Vermont doles out. Sometimes it feels like you could spend a week just breathing. We're busting with them right now. Is good situation. Here's a tip on three wildflowers you should definitely *avoid* picking. First, two endangered species: 1) the lady slipper, a pink forest orchid (you'll know it when you see it!) and 2) the orange lilies growing along rt 125 in such abundance this year. I think they're tiger lilies, but I'm not sure. There seem to be lots of them - still endangered. Lastly, a particularly nasty customer, the wild or poison parsnip. Wild parsnip grows along roadsides and the edges of meadows. It looks like a yellow Queen Anne's Lace and has its minimalist beauty. Strong, almost hexagonal-looking stem with flat spray of tiny yellow flowers on top. Stay away. If you get the sap on your skin, you will be graced by a rash of insanity-itching red boils. These suck, just trust me. Suck. Worse, (though kind of cool in an academic sort of way) the boils are photo-activated, meaning they will erupt anew every time they are touched by sunlight. My summer case seven years ago didn't totally go away until winter. Supersuck. Nature love!

The Crumb

The Daily Bulletin of the Bread Loaf School of English in Vermont

Volume 95, Number 14

July 11, 2014

Events, Occurrences, Happenings, Developments, Situational Phenomena

Friday 7/11

All School Picnic
- 6 pm, West Lawn
"Something Wild" screened by
Jonathan Freedman - 9 pm, Barn
Lessons and Carols
- after dark, John's Pond

Saturday 7/12

Tweed River Tubing
- 10 am to 4 pm, Stockbridge

Motown Dance
- take the trip w/ DJ Xander
9 pm, Barn

Sunday 7/13

The Occasional Robert
Frost Society
- 2 pm, Blue Parlor

Blue Parlor Readings
- after dinner, Blue Parlor

Monday 7/14

Faculty Reader:
Tracy K. Smith
- 7:30 pm, Barn

Fare enough:

Lunch: Pizza day! Pepperoni,
Veggie, Cheese, truffle fruits,
acknowledgement of an ideal,
Caesar Salad

Dinner: Cook out with your book
out - burgers, bovine and black
bean, dogs, yada, yada, the
inexpressible catachresis that forces
us to name the stimulatingly
troubling blend of sweet and sour in
our lemonade "joy"

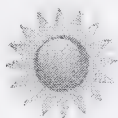
Carmen San Diego:

Nowhere in the world I'd rather
be right now than right here in
Ripton. Once again today we've got
clear skies and visibility of ten miles
(16.09 K) unless big rock things
(mountains) or plant things (trees)
get in the way. At a cruising
altitude of 1432 feet, or 436.47
meters, we've got 58% humidity,
light and variable winds of 1 mph,
gusting to 3 mph, and once again, in
the face of gods and men, 0% chance
of precipitation. Do it Rockapella.

Moon is just shy of full tonight;
we'll call it 99% visible. You know
what that means: continued
applicability of one of my top five
favorite phrases. Say it with me:
WAXING GIBBOUS. Moonboom.

72 / 53 F

23.33 / 13.33 C



Tubenclature - lexicon of the float

You can still sign up to join Matty Fiorentino and the gang
flotsaming themselves down the Tweed River on Saturday until 1:30
today! So right after lunch, get to the Front Desk and create a series of
marks that others through common agreement (?) or unexamined habit
will recognize as symbols that when placed adjacently to each other will
voltron (combine) into a signifier that simultaneously both is and is not
the you that is signified, the act of which is political, philosophical, and
necessary to your continued survival. (You have to write your name down so
the kitchen can prep food and you can eat.) Should be another gorge-ous day
(Official apology for bad gorge pun. Friday morning here. Gorge rising at it.) so grab
the sunscreen and do it. And don't just do it, do it well. Mind the jetsam.

"A Certain Cult Status"

Tonight at 9:00 pm, cult icon Jonathan Freedman is screening
the provocatively titled 1986 action-comedy-roadtrip-gone-wrong flick
(Genre is a verb.) "Something Wild" in the Barn. Starring the ineffable
Jeff Daniels, crazy-eyed Melanie Griffith, and just plain crazy Ray
Liotta, who plays a crazy guy...named Ray, the film is full of turns, both
metaphorical and otherwise, and should prove light-hearted enough at
base to set the human blackness the characters visit upon themselves
into significant contrast. Contrast creates line. Line creates form. Form
creates relationship. Relationship creates meaning. (Marinate on that. Love
you Andre.) The film is directed by Jonathan Demme, known for his
upbeat laughers "The Silence of the Lambs" and "Philadelphia." For
those who still can't seem to face up to the fact, Demme also directed
huge-suited David Byrne and crew in new wave phenomenon Talking
Heads' video project *Stop Making Sense*. A "certain cult status." Finally,
there's just a kind of je ne sais pas fitness about saying to your
roommate: "I'm going watch Something Wild in the Barn."

One touch is sometimes enough

Join Micky Lenzi and the BLFC at 2pm in the parking lot to
head down to Middlebury for full-sided soccer today. Cleats, shorts,
light and dark, water bottle, physical elegance, quickness, dreams, balls.

Words and worlds, in prose or rhyme, speech or song, burn in my mind

After dark tonight folks will be going moth around the firepit down by John's Pond to commune with combustion: blowing each other's minds. Bring something startling, striking, an uncommon commentary, an opinion on dominion, the news of the world. Bring it on paper, if you can, so we can ritualistically transmogrify the words back into winds and reduce their physical imprints down to their component atoms. Copies of song lyrics wouldn't be a bad idea either. Lessons and Carols. Aptly named.

Rather these hands the multitudinous minds incarnadine

Jaclyn Wagner is facilitating a **Macbeth Teaching & Lesson Exchange** next **Tuesday, 7/15, at 7 pm in Barn 1**. The goal of the event is to have that one-on-one "sharing" experience on a big level, talk about best practice, strategies for teaching *Macbeth*, resources, etc. **In advance:** Email favorite/best *Macbeth* resource (lesson, critical article, worksheet, supplementary film title, etc) & sentence about why it's awesome to jaclyn_wagner@breadnet.middlebury.edu (Kate Carroll, you are right. *Throne of Blood* does have the awesomest witch. Also the awesomest main character getting riddled with five thousand arrows I've ever seen on screen. There is a very real terror on the actor's face that no artifice could produce or cover over.)



Put on some class and shake that

Get up for Mountain Motown tomorrow night where Xander will be serving all the glitz and glamor the Loaf has to offer. Recipe for a good time: Start with a liberal amount of social-hungry, paper-week-pressure-cooked, English-dork-summer-campers. Identify each by name as unique and necessary components to the overall culinary piece. Stamp their hands. Chop through whatever tangentially related to Motown costume absurdities apparent to get to the heart. At the heart, you'll find the Dance. Peel. Carefully. Not so carefully. Tip-top contemporary shake-hop on the dock for the afterclock. Stir vigorously.

There was never a sound beside the words but one...and then several more later...which was me talking again

The Occasional Robert Frost Society will be meeting again this Sunday in the Blue Parlor at 2 pm. No one from Boston this week. Get ready to discuss validation of personal identity via the ability to negotiate rural labor. Also, it's just so nice to hear the words out loud. Like ice on a hot stove. Momentary stay against conclusion.

Get your act together for Café au Play:

Apparently inexhaustible fun-creators and Crumb darlings Melanie Corning and Lauren Bahedry will be organizing and MCing an open-mic **Coffee House** this **Wednesday, July 16th** from 9 – 11 pm in the Barn. Performances of all sorts: song and dance, spoken word/slam poetry, impressions, stand-up/improv/skits, etc. Solo or groups. Sign-up by emailing Melanie Corning or Lauren Bahedry, who will post the performance schedule prior to the blessed event. I will be reading a Chekhov monologue on The Harmful Effects of Tobacco.

If you're like me and you hear that you have until **July 15th** to order your t-shirt and tote bag, you're thinking, *Sweet. I can totally do that later.* But then, if you think more, and realize July 15th is, like **Tuesday**, you're all like, *Whoa! I gotta do that now!* This kind of scintillating self-conversation is what makes up my rich inner life.

The Nature of Things

So I feel like lately the Nature of Things has been a lot of caution and warning. Awareness is to be valued. Here's a humble attempt to turn your minds onto some bliss. The milkweed is blooming in the meadow, little purple flowers giving off a little purple aroma. That nice bite in the night air is the chill and, subsequently, NOT the mosquitoes. Win. Yesterday I was forest bounding (sounds cooler than "on a run in the woods") and the majesty of flowing down a straight path lined on both sides by hundred-fifty foot trees in the middle of the New England wood struck me in the diaphragm such that I actually started laughing. At the laugh, my unfocused eyes caught motion to my right and the deer and I realized each other's presence simultaneously. She was a very large doe, the face so much wider when seen from the direct front, her body massive in the way I always forget until the next time I am close to a large mammal. I want to remember that there was the briefest moment of absolute stillness. Not sure if that is true. But it's the motion that I'm holding closest in memory: her whole body coiling backward for three instants, the tension twisting in her thick-muscle legs, the power and fact of her spring moving that massive body ten, twelve feet and landing lightly enough in two-part staccato for another immediate leap that seemed twice as far as the first. One more and she was gone. I hadn't stopped running, taking perhaps four strides to the deer's three, and was still only fourteen feet or so from where we started. The trees were old and not too densely packed, lending me visibility for a fair ways. The deer was gone. Deer are actual forest bounders. I knew that in my mind. But now my moving body knows it, knows it deeper, in the tissue and sinew. What knowledge will you find and feel today?

If you have an announcement for the Crumb or see a catamount or something hit me up at joliver@breadnet.middlebury.edu

The Crumb

The Daily Bulletin of the Bread Loaf School of English in Vermont

Volume 95, Number 15

July 14, 2014

Events, Occurrences, Happenings, Developments, Situational Phenomena

Monday 7/14

Faculty Reader:
Tracy K. Smith
- 7:30 pm, Barn

Tuesday 7/15

Soccer! - 7:00 pm Tamarack
Students of Color meeting
- 7:15 pm, Blue Parlor
Macbeth Teaching Workshop
- 7:00 pm, Barn 1
Karaoke Night in town
- around 9ish @ Two Bros

Wednesday 7/16

Ultimate Frisbee
- 7:15 pm, Tamarack
Panel Discussion: "Created
Spaces, Reading through Art"
- 7:15 pm, Barn 1
Café Night in the Barn
- 9:00 to 11:00 pm

Thursday 7/17

BLTN Summer Synthesis
- 7:00 pm, Barn 1
Pond Reading!
- 9:30 pm, John's Pond

Omnivorals:

Lunch: Cuban turkey/ham sandwich (turpig-eon?), Roasted eggplant/beet sandwich (drop a beet!), rst'd sweet potatoes, garden veggie soup

Dinner: Shrimp and broccoli w/ rice, Tofu and veggie w/ udon noodles, egg rolls

Thor's undergarments:

Welcome back 88% humidity, we've missed you so! Only a 20% chance of precip today but I think calling it "dry" would be stretching language's limits to a point where even irony might raise its hand and admit it's starting to feel uncomfortable. This is stick2ya kinda weather. Complaint aside though, I'm sure it's going to be at least 20-30% hotter, muggier, stickier down in the valley than up here in the aerie peeks. So if the air seems caught, still or stale, too much like an uneasy entish wood, head down to Middlebury for a couple hours. Endure. Then come back up the mountain to experience some fresh air. Relativity, right Thor? That's right, John. Dropping the hammer tomorrow.

81 / 64 F

27.2 / 17.8 C



Tonight's Faculty Reader: Tracy K. Smith

Joel Brouwer of the New York Times writes: "As all the best poetry does, *Life on Mars* first sends us out into the magnificent chill of the imagination and then returns us to ourselves, both changed and consoled." Join us in the Barn tonight at 7:30 pm to go away and come back, hearing some words from Tracy K. Smith.

Born in Massachusetts (Cape Cod!), Tracy K. Smith earned her BA from Harvard University and an MFA in creative writing from Columbia University. From 1997 to 1999 she held a Stegner fellowship at Stanford University. Smith is the author of three books of poetry: *The Body's Question* (2003), which won the Cave Canem prize for the best first book by an African-American poet; *Duende* (2007), winner of the James Laughlin Award and the Essense Literary Award; and *Life on Mars* (2011), which won the 2012 Pulitzer Prize for Poetry. Smith teaches creative writing at Princeton University and Bread Loaf and lives in Brooklyn (Editorial: Wow).

We are so lucky to have a human of such quality and caliber here at Bread Loaf. Tracy's students take risks, they push, they shine. Poet Dean Young writes: "Imagination is the highest accomplishment of human consciousness, and EMPATHY is the highest accomplishment of imagination." This seems true and recognizable to me. Gather tonight to listen to the highly accomplished Tracy K. Smith.

Thanks from Emily and Django

The directors want to thank everyone who met with the External Review team and made the review such a successful and energizing event. We — and the reviewers — enjoyed the exchange. No rare pleasure to talk and think and share stories about Bread Loaf.

Jobwatch: Carney Sandoe arrives (she knows everyone!)

Carney Sandoe, a placement agency based in Boston, will be here to meet with students on Wednesday, July 16th from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. For an appointment, please sign up outside Elaine's office.

Bread Loaf Summer T-shirt? Totes!

You have one more day to order your BL swag by signing up on the board outside the dining hall (Incidentally, my students now tell me that "swag" means something entirely different. Youth! Language! My own assertive contradiction!). Shirts are \$15 and tote bags are \$7. At such a steal, you should buy two, three...honestly, people will feel left out if they don't get one. High thread count! (If I sell enough shirts I get extra dessert.) Final order goes in tomorrow afternoon!!! Monday morning exclamation points!!!!

Tomorrow, Tomorrow, Tomorrow

Jaclyn Wagner is facilitating a *Macbeth* Teaching & Lesson Exchange tomorrow, 7/15, at 7 pm in Barn 1. The goal of the event is to have that one-on-one "sharing" experience on a big level, talk about best practice, strategies for teaching *Macbeth*, resources, etc. **In advance:** Email favorite/best *Macbeth* resource (lesson, critical article, worksheet, supplementary film title, etc) & sentence about why it's awesome to jaclyn_wagner@breadnet.middlebury.edu. **Signify.**

William Shakespeare Parody Mashup? Foucault sits on a train next to Carrie? S-- plays the violin?

Café Night open-mic this **Wednesday, July 16th** from 9 – 11 pm in the Barn. Performances of all sorts: song and dance, spoken word/slam poetry, impressions, stand-up/improv/skits, etc. Solo or groups. Sign-up by emailing **Melanie Corning** or **Lauren Bahedry!** This is for the whole community. See you there. ☺

Use your Jedi mind-control powers for good

Yoda-esque (Wisdom not stature, she's quite tall actually) BL Staff member and Crumb favorite **Dana Olsen** is inviting any students interested in becoming Bread Loaf Recruiters to join her for a small reception in the Blue Parlor on Wednesday, July 16th, at 5:00 pm. Recruiters from the past year will recount ways in which they've helped add human capital to our community (You *will* delve frantically into the Ovidian tradition). Snazzy BL brochures are available to anyone who'd like to spread the word of Words and help others taste that special Mountain Kool-Aid. Attendance is limited (Unclear, the future is) so please RSVP to Dana @ dolsen@middlebury.edu

Let Be Be Finale of Seem — The **Robert Haiduke Poetry Prize** is accepting submissions, two poems per, max 40 lines each, until this **Thursday July 17th** — Breadnet Karen Browne with submission. Cash money!!!

"He eats nothing but doves, love, and that breeds hot blood, and hot blood beget hot thoughts, and hot thoughts beget hot deeds, and hot deeds is love."

Ok...definitely going to see this play. You can pick up tickets (free!) for *Troilus and Cressida* at the Front Desk of the Inn starting on Wednesday. Show opens Wednesday, July 30th and runs through Sunday, August 3rd. All shows at 8:00 pm. Please take only the tickets you need. If, in the shifting amorphousness of humanity, you find your ticket needs change, simply return or exchange unnecessary tickets. If, on the night of a performance, you're holding extra tickets in your hand, please bring them to Mary in the theatre office. There is always a waitlist for people who want to see all the hot dove eating and the blood and the thoughts and...whoa...

Educator's Roundtable – Community College Instruction

Janine Fujioka and Julia Burr are facilitating dinner conversation about teaching at the community college level, strategies for job-searching with MA in hand, and expression of shared experience. They are posting a sheet for people's questions prior to the Q&A dinner. Take a look and get in touch. More info to follow.

The Nature of Things

Walking about, as we often are when contemplating the nature of things, in pasture and meadow and wood, you will occasionally meet large, naked stones sitting placidly surrounded by heather or humus or forcing the irregular curving growth of some more acrobatic tree, and giving no account of themselves whatsoever. Some may be half sunk into the ground, giving them the appearance of belonging, something emerging or uncovered. But many sit atop the ground like the aliens they are, looking as if they'd been dropped out a hole in a striding giant's pocket, never noticed or missed perhaps until the giant was already far from here. These boulders often have no geologic relation to the native rock, and are, in fact, guests – that is, unless we deem 20,000 years enough time for stones to make new identities. Naturalists call them "glacial erratics." They are the crumbs, detritus left by the great glaciers that braced their feet against the Artic Pole and shoved mountains southeastward. When the ice melted, some bits were left behind. I find this an apt metaphor for my emotional landscape at times. Stones I've been hauling for ages suddenly drop in the middle of my meadow, my summer wood. An erratic, alien heaviness. I try to warm them in the sun, make them a perch for a bobolink, lend coolness to hot mice.

The Crumb

The Daily Bulletin of the Bread Loaf School of English in Vermont

Volume 95, Number 17

July 16, 2014

Events, Occurrences, Happenings, Developments, Situational Phenomena

Wednesday 7/16

Ultimate Frisbee

- 7:15 pm, Tamarack

"Created Spaces, Reading through Art" - 7:15 pm, Barn 1

Café Night in the Barn

- 9:00 to 11:00 pm

Thursday 7/17

Remix Education

- 7:00 pm, Barn 1

Pond Reading!

- 9:30 pm, John's Pond

Friday 7/18

"Teaching Youth Media" w/

Steve Goodman, 9:30-11:30, Barn 1

Board Games - 7 pm, Barn 2

"Grand Budapest Hotel" hosted

by Jennifer Wicke, 9 pm, Barn 1

Lessons and Carols - Pond, dark

Saturday 7/19

Branbury-Dunmore

Excursion w/ MacNair

- 1:45 pm

Das Dance

- 9:00 pm, Barn

Feed Me Elliot!

Lunch: Turkey chili or Black bean-butternut squash chili, both w/ rice, cornbreadloaf

Dinner: Cod Puttanesca, Spinach and Mushroom Lasagna, rst'd asparagus, rst'd herbed potatoes

Air apparent:

Mix of sun and clouds today, all day long (supposed to be overcast but I got eyes). A cute little rainstorm passed over us in the night and the system around us seems pretty stable actually, so, given my significant meteorological training and experience (sticks hand out window), I can predict that despite some consistent clouds we should have a pretty dry day. The only moment when the temperature is supposed to be anywhere close to the dewpoint is right now (8 am). So, that means...something. Right?

Good day to get your bocce match in - dry, very little glare, 37% decrease in debocchedration (bocce-induced dehydration? I know, lame...). You could walk. Read outside. Sew. Sing. Attempt to befriend squirrels. Thrush watch. Solve cold fusion. Make lists...

76 / 53 F

24.4 / 11.7 C



"Created Spaces, Reading through Art"

Join tonight for a conversation about the interplay of art and literature (Love mutualism). Adam Fitzgerald and Emily Skillings will be speaking about the co-creation of John Ashbery's writing and personal collections of art, furniture, objects, etc. They will be joined by our own Jennifer Green-Lewis and Michael Wood, who bring mediations on the roles of painting and photography in English and American literature. **7:15 pm, Barn 1.** "...all ye need to know."

Recruiter's Reception - this is no chicken dinner!

It's actually before dinner, which looks lovely by the way... **Crumb Champion Dana Olsen**, along with being generally fabulous, invites all current and potential Bread Loaf School of English Recruiters (BLSERs) to meet in the **Blue Parlor** today at **5:00 pm**. We'll recognize recruiters from the past year and explain the different ways Bread Loafers can help bring more Englishdork-genius people into the fold (Loaf-in-idleness. Just a dab upon the eyelids...). Interested students please RSVP to dolsen@middlebury.edu. Also, talk to Dana if you'd like some snazzy, glossy, BL paraphernalia with which to bedeck the halls of your schools, workplaces, hunting lodges, fave sandwich shop, podiatrist's office, sloth conservation area, lighthouse, list-making desk...

Remixing Bread Loaf in classrooms and communities!

Thursday, Barn 1, July 17, 7 - 8:30 pm. Working session: Connect with other Bread Loaf students and their students on texts and topics that intrigue you. International and local virtual exchanges, shared inquiries, writing/designing-for-publication online workshops. Whales, braids, *MacBeth*, the Vermont family farm, cultivating food literacy, youth writing leaders, Shirts and slavery, low-tech/no-tech reading/writing group with local authors, Invisible Cities in Chicago and beyond: a few topics mentioned or proposed. BYOD. Sponsored by BLTN.

Happy Birthday Victoria Brown!

"Oh please, dear? For your information the Supreme Court has roundly rejected prior restraint! I'm staying. I'm finishing my coffee. Enjoying my coffee."

This is not a first amendment thing man – at least not 'til Bahedry gets too happy with "the hook." Take a break from the books and spend an hour or two watching your contemporaries express themselves! You'll be glad you did. (I just used the word "contemporaries." Dear god, I'm becoming my father...) Bread Loaf Cruise Directors Lauren Bahedry and Melanie Corning host the community **Café Night Coffee House** this evening from 9–11 in the Barn. Come, listen, laugh, dance jigs, punch and pie (potentially?), write a little ditty about all the pretty pretty, compose a series of non-traditional litanies...

The Robert Haiduke Poetry due tomorrow July 17th -- Breadnet Karen Browne with submission.

From the Mouth of Crumb Goddess Sara "Who do ya love? Are you sure?" Griesbach: Mic Check

Seniors: Check the senior inbox on Breadnet for a link to a Suppressed Desires Survey – it only takes a few minutes, but it is really important! Survey closes Thursday at midnight. There will be a **meeting on Friday afternoon (after lunch)** for anyone interested in helping out with the dance (and help *is* needed!).

Bocce: Round 1 games should definitely be finished by this weekend (at this point, you can, and should, play your games even if all of your teammates can't be there). Second and third round games can happen as soon as both teams are identified in the bracket, but should be completed no later than next weekend. Get your bocce on! (Aside: Do not delay Sara's road to inevitable glory. It stings.)

Waitstaff for Graduation: We need people to work graduation this year! If you are interested in working that day (includes setup of the dining hall, and waiting on seniors and their families/friends that night), please let Promise or Sara G. know sooner rather than later. Remember, you will get paid for your time! (And you will also be able to attend the graduation ceremony.)

Troilus and Cressida tickets *should* be available at the Front Desk after lunch today. Show opens Wednesday, July 30th and runs through Sunday, August 3rd. All shows at 8:00 pm. "Thou sodden-witted lord! thou hast no more brain than I have in mine elbows." "Thou dove-eater! Thou bloodbedrangled hound! The corpuscle ornamenting thy face weeps for its fate!"

TEACHING YOUTH MEDIA: LITERACY, VIDEO PRODUCTION, AND SOCIAL CHANGE

Friday, July 18, Barn 1: 9:30 – 11:30 a.m.

The Educational Video Center (evc.org) is a non-profit youth media organization dedicated to teaching documentary video as a means to develop the artistic, critical literacy, and career skills of young people, while nurturing their idealism and commitment to social change. **Steve Goodman**, author of *Teaching Youth Media: A Critical Guide to Literacy, Video Production, and Social Change*, will speak Friday morning about the power of using media education to help teenagers develop their critical thinking and literacy skills. Steve will show clips from EVC's award-winning documentary, "Unequal Education: Failing Our Children," commemorating the 60th anniversary of the historical Brown v. Board of Education ruling that signaled the end of legalized racial segregation in U.S. schools. A discussion will follow.

Land of Oil and Water – Film screening tonight, followed by Q&A w/ Director Neil McArthur

Our cousins down the hill at Middlebury College's School of the Environment are screening "Land of Oil and Water" tonight at 7:30 p.m. in McCardell Bicentennial Hall 216. "Fracking," tar sands, pipelines, indigenous voices, and you.

Earth's the right place for love: I don't know where it's likely to go better.

Boom Robert, Boom. Reminder to join birch-swingers/wall-mender/flower-tufter **Kara McCabe** and the Occasional Robert Frost Society **Sunday at 2pm in the Blue Parlor**. Perfect hour brain break when you're weary of considerations and your paper seems too much like a pathless wood. Sometimes we go get creemees after. One could do worse.

Excursion to Lake Dunmore and Branbury State Park w/ MacNairBear (Rhymes with CareBear)

Spend an afternoon at Branbury State Park sunning and swimming and boating (if you so choose). The entrance fee to the park is \$3.00 per adult. They have pedal boats, canoes, kayaks and rowboats for rent for those wanting to venture out on the water. Rentals for those start at \$7.50 an hour. A snack bar has Creemees and other things to eat. It is a lovely place to spend an afternoon. **Time: 1:45 right after lunch!** Bring: \$\$\$ for entrance fee, boat rentals and snacks. Towel, sunscreen, a suit, a good book and a friend or two. Flotation devices allowed (Blow-up Chaucer?). Please inflate after arrival. Sign up at the Front Desk.

The Nature of Things

Vermont's state bird is the hermit thrush, *Catharus guttatus*. Smaller than a robin, dull, spotted brown with a rusty tail which it often flicks. Many ornithologists, in as subjective a moment as scientists have in speaking of their quarries, believe the song of the hermit thrush to be the most beautiful of any bird in North America. The call begins with a sustained whistle, followed by a series of musical tones sometimes described as *oh, holy holy, ah, purity purity eeh, sweetly sweetly*. I heard one yesterday running on the Frost trail. Both soothing and haunting all at once. Listen to the calls at the Cornell Lab of Ornithology and Audubon websites:

http://www.allaboutbirds.org/guide/hermit_thrush/sounds

<http://birds.audubon.org/birds/hermit-thrush>

If you have an announcement for the Crumb or see a catamount or something, hit me up at joliver@breadnet.middlebury.edu

The Crumb

The Daily Bulletin of the Bread Loaf School of English in Vermont

Volume 95, Number 18

July 17, 2014

Events, Occurrences, Happenings, Developments, Situational Phenomena

Thursday 7/17

Bread Loaf Remix

- 7:00 pm, Barn 1

Pond Reading!

- 9:30 pm, John's Pond

Friday 7/18

"Teaching Youth Media" w/
Steve Goodman, 9:30-11:30, Barn 1

Board Games - 7 pm, Barn 2

"Grand Budapest Hotel" hosted by
Jennifer Wicke, 9 pm, Barn 1

Lessons and Carols - Pond, dark

Saturday 7/19

Branbury-Dunmore

Excursion w/ MacNair

- 1:45 pm

Das Dance

- 9:00 pm, Barn

Sunday 7/20

The Occasional Robert
Frost Society

- 2 pm, Blue Parlor

Blue Parlor

- after dinner

Your Beef of Burden:

Lunch: Grilled Chicken, Grilled Portabella, Pan-zanella salad (Wildness across all zanellas!), rst'd potatoes, cream of broccoli soup

Dinner: Beef Picadillo (Cod Puttanesca last night...someone's having fun), Veggie-bean Paella, collard greens and onions

Clear-voyance:

Can someone say high-pressure system parked right on top of Ripton, givin' a morning chill and also a clear feeling to the dealings going on all day under sun sun sun sun sun? Welcome to your next five to six days if the so far only marginally accurate weather underground can be trusted. Temps should be low 70s (get your "I'm not sweating while sitting completely still" on) during the day and dropping to the low 50s, possibly even below, at night (Anyone else's covers feel delicious this morning with the windows open? Boooooom.) Very little chance of precip reported, so, given my experience here, I will continue to carry my raincoat everywhere at all times. Helps a body feel good. We are two-thirds waning gibbous right now. Oh, waning, not as awesome as waxing, but still gibbous by all accounts.

70 / 51 F

21.1 / 10.5 C



"Remixing Bread Loaf in classrooms and communities!"

Thursday, Barn 1, July 17, 7 - 8:30 pm. TONIGHT! Working session: Connect with other Bread Loaf students and their students on texts and topics that intrigue you. International and local virtual exchanges, shared inquiries, writing/designing-for-publication online workshops. Whales, braids, *MacBeth*, the Vermont family farm, cultivating food literacy, youth writing leaders, Shirts and slavery, low-tech/no-tech reading/writing group with local authors, Invisible Cities in Chicago and beyond: a few topics mentioned or proposed. BYOD. Sponsored by BLTN.

The Cream in my Coffee

A big shout out to the whole community for being stupid-ridiculously-talented and brave and supportive of each other and hilarious last night at the Coffee House in the Barn. What marked the evening for me was the seemingly unspoken and yet almost universal agreement that this space was for doing new or scary but definitely vulnerable things with a sense of real trust and safety. As my friend Meg says, "Good on you" Bread Loaf. I wanted to name a few highlights and then I realized that it was turning into the entire set line-up and the succinct yet no less necessary reviews I would need to write for each would take up all of this and several successive Crumbs, so, let's just say Oliver and Oliver both have bright musical futures (presents) and that every Armstrong deserves a song. Huge THANK YOU and well done to Crumb-beloved BL Cruise Directors Melanie Corning and Lauren Bahedry for organizing. Some kinda fancy.

Promises to keep

The Robert Haiduke Poetry Prize is accepting submissions until **today**. Two poems, forty lines per. Breadnet attachment to Karen Browne. I usually go for the "print out a bunch, toss them in the air, and then pick one up at random" method of selecting what to submit. I find it preferential to my other method, which is the "pull hair out until you have lost all perspective on reality" way of doing things. But that's me.

TEACHING YOUTH MEDIA: LITERACY, VIDEO PRODUCTION, AND SOCIAL CHANGE

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The Educational Video Center (evc.org) is a non-profit youth media organization dedicated to teaching documentary video as a means to develop the artistic, critical literacy, and career skills of young people, while nurturing their idealism and commitment to social change. **Steve Goodman**, author of *Teaching Youth Media: A Critical Guide to Literacy, Video Production, and Social Change*, will speak Friday morning about the power of using media education to help teenagers develop their critical thinking and literacy skills. Steve will show clips from EVC's award-winning documentary, "Unequal Education: Failing Our Children," commemorating the 60th anniversary of the historical Brown v. Board of Education ruling that signaled the end of legalized racial segregation in U.S. schools. A discussion will follow.

Old Piney tussles with a Douglas Fir: Come on down to John's Pond tonight for the best kind of frivolity. Bring your ID, long sleeves (and maybe a hat. gonna be chilly), and smore-makin' boots. Thanks Annex and DAs!

Fast and Furious

So the papers and deadlines are pouring in fast and furious and you are wondering what to do. 14 peer readers are waiting to work with you to untangle those knots or to just offer an extra pair of eyes and ears. Schedule a session here to meet them: <http://www.booknow.so/blwc>

Sara "I know where they keep the spoons" Griesbach: REMIX (just to be clear, I'm using telepathy to find out what Sara would want me to say today. Thanks Michael Armstrong for showing me the ways of the Force.)

Seniors: Please do your Suppressed Desires Survey! Closes tonight at midnight. There will be a **meeting on Friday afternoon (after lunch)** for anyone interested in helping out with the dance (and help is needed!). (I'm seeing paper mache myself - like a huge paper mache me...or a hippo...or a city of hippos and mes rotating like planets. Fantastic.)

Bocce: Stop playing "hide the pallino" and let's get this tourney moving! Balls to roll here.

Waitstaff for Graduation: So working waitstaff for graduation is awesome, even if you've never done waitstaffing of any kind anywhere before. You get paid. You get to meet everyone's families and such. It's a tremendous night where everyone is super-happy and you get to go to graduation. Also, there's serious bonding that goes on while you're slinging those plates. Why I signed up for waitstaff the next year. Is good situation. Tell Sara G. or Promise you'll do it.

Troilus and Cressida tickets are be available at the Front Desk. Show opens Wednesday, July 30th and runs through Sunday, August 3rd. All shows at 8:00 pm.

Excursion to Lake Dunmore and Branbury State Park w/ MacNair "Here and Now (taps banana)" Randall

Spend Saturday afternoon at Branbury State Park sunning and swimming and boating (if you so choose). The entrance fee to the park is \$3.00 per adult. They have pedal boats, canoes, kayaks and rowboats for rent for those wanting to venture out on the water. Rentals for those start at \$7.50 an hour. A snack bar has Creemees and other things to eat. It is a lovely place to spend an afternoon. **Time: 1:45 right after lunch!** Bring: \$\$\$ for entrance fee, boat rentals and snacks. Towel, sunscreen, a suit, a good book and a friend or two. Flotation devices allowed (Blow-up Pequod and Moby set w/ tiny harpoons? Queequeg's coffin?). Please inflate after arrival (unless inflating ego, in which case, do that after you go home...unless you're the Crumb editor). Sign up at the Front Desk.

Under the Raydar w/ Rachel Jennings, Crumb-contributor

This weekend marks the one-week countdown to the opportunity to cover yourself in glitter, strut around like you're in an obscure hybrid-rap-hybrid-indie-hybrid-David-Bowie-(Robyn?) music video, and reveal for once and for all your deepest secrets and impulses. Suppressed Desires. For your mental, emotional, and physical preparation, please enjoy these seven steps to deciding on what to wear:

1. Start with food. Stand at the salad bar; shuffle through loaves of bread. Stare at the strawberry jelly, raspberry, grape. Ignore the grape. Stare at hummus, egg salad, left-over shrimp-based dish. Which will stick to your body? Which will people enjoy eating throughout the night? You want to draw appetites—but not a crowd. 2. Leave the mountain. Stand in the aisle of Ben Franklin. Stare at the crumpled dollars in your hands. Consider binding your entire body in colored bandanas. Consider taking up sewing. Buy a maple crunch chocolate. It will please you. 3. Return. Take a sip of whiskey. Think about sex. Freudian slip—that's too cliché. A literary sex scene? You will need a group costume for this. Consider the friends with whom you would parade around in group sexy costume. Laugh. Be happy for your friends. 4. Stare at your bookshelf. Try to sum up modernism in one sentence. Take a Sharpie and write that on your arm. Recite Frost. Write something about scythe. Cover your body with knowledge. Yes. This is nice. 5. Stare out the window. There go the Armstrongs. Who will dress as the Armstrongs with you? You really just want to be the Armstrongs. Sit on your porch. Wave to them. 6. Have intentionally loud conversations. Say: "Yeah, I've always wanted to skydive. Get a white tattoo. Be Mrs. Dalloway but happier. Be Beyonce but exactly her. Do it right next to (over? under?) a live wire. Be on the cast of 'Girls.' Eat an entire box of Saltines in under five minutes." Wait for someone to say: "That'd be a great Suppressed Desires costume!" Someone will ask you to pass the salt. Start thinking about prepositions. 7. Return to your room. Take a sip of whiskey. You are covered in literary tattoos and Freud and strawberry preserves and bandanas and ideas. This might do.

The Crumb

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“Grand Budapest Hotel” hosted by
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Lessons and Carols – Pond, dark

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Frost Society
– 2 pm, Blue Parlor

Blue Parlor
– after dinner

Monday 7/21

Faculty Reader:
Robert Sullivan
– 7:30 pm, Barn

ATP! ATP!

Lunch: Fish and Chips, Asian pasta salad, slaw, rice salad (So, I think ATP stands for adenosine triphosphate, which I believe is the basic unit of molecular energy – essentially what our food turns into, powering our cells and selves – but I'm not a doctor.)

Dinner: It's Friday, so get the blankets and frisbees. Cook out on the West Lawn with all the usual fizens.

Don't deserve it:

That's the New England Puritanism I'll never quite shake talking. The weather today is going to be so good that it's making me feel inherently wicked. 75, high pressure, clear, 0% chance of precip. Whoever of you that's doing something right, keep doing it.

Today is swimming and reading day I believe. I've declared it. It must be so. But who goes best with the swimming hole? Dante? Mmm...how about Stephen King? Too creepy all isolated in the woods for Stephen? Wordsworth does good swimming hole work, and of course there's always, always Frost. Sam and I had a Directive goodnight. Wonderful. Still can't decide? Virginia Woolf! Yes!

75 / 54 F
23.9 / 12.2 C



Branbury Adventure w/ MacNair

Still room to sign up for the lazy lake day with MacNair tomorrow. Spend Saturday afternoon at Branbury State Park sunning and swimming and boating (if you so choose). The entrance fee to the park is \$3.00 per adult. (In this economy?? What a deal!) They have pedal boats, canoes, kayaks and rowboats for rent for those wanting to venture out on the water. Rentals for those start at \$7.50 an hour. A snack bar has Creemees and other things to eat. It is a lovely place to spend an afternoon. **Time: 1:45 right after lunch!** Bring: \$\$\$ for entrance fee, boat rentals and snacks. Towel, sunscreen, a suit, a good book and a friend or two. Flotation devices allowed (Find someone to blow up your water wings). Please inflate after. (I think I'll attach that to the ends of things and see if it's funny.)

Tonight at the Grand Budapest Hotel

Based on the writing of Stephan Zweig, an early 20th century Austrian novelist, playwright, and journalist who attempted to die a more beautiful death (forces other than me will judge his success), Grand Budapest is the latest from writer/director Wes Anderson, famous for a number of films done in his unique and highly specific voice/aesthetic. Royal Tenenbaums, Rushmore, and Moonrise Kingdom are my personal favorites. In this latest film, Ralph Fiennes plays the consummate concierge. When accused of murder, he must flee along with his assistant, Zero Moustafa. Hilarity and circumstance as only Wes Anderson can. Please join Jennifer Wicke in **Barn 1 at 9:00 pm tonight.** Please inflate after.

E 5 – HIT – You sank my Battleship. Please inflate after.

Join the indomitable Chris McCurry (If you dare) for board games in **Barn 2** tonight at **7:00 pm** after dinner. Settlers, Monop, Sorry, Backgammon, Othello (Lawrence Fishburne edition), Checkers, Space Hulk (actual game), Stratego, Blockus, Candyland, perhaps even Cards Against Humanity (semantic point: count as “board game” ???).

Happy Birthday Emily Gooch! Mwah!

Oh, yee, yes, and yay, we gathered round the fire 'fore a telling of the storm, no way of knowing what the storm was telling us, what fire whispered to the dust beneath its glowing, or just how much our voices turned to rust in the storms *come, come, coming*.

Riiiiiiight....So, **Lessons and Carols** tonight after dark down by the pond. Bring contributions! What? Anything that turns your brain around a bit, perhaps full of wickedly sophisticated or extremely juvenile comedy, perhaps a missive of some sort that will change the lives of those around you forever, something that melts my brain in elegance, transcendence or simple audacity. Paper is best so we can burn it with the rest. Songsters, please bring your magic sticks. My magic stick only works on one side and it's not the melody side. Copies of lyrics aren't a bad idea either. And someone be in charge of disaster song in case of a bad star.

Das Please Inflate After

Das DAs are putting their motelroom forensics to work in reverse tomorrow night. The Barn pulsing with vibration, slight eerie light leaking from its windows, painting the night something alien. Within, a mass of roiling organic matter, iridescent torsos and bright neon digits leaving trails in significant signs and patterns, seeking seeking seeking something never stated, only signified. Joy. No, that's not quite it...perhaps another ride will help decide the verse. Dance. White t-shirts. Blacklights. Highlighters. Music. More.

In the big chair

Don't miss Blue Parlor Sunday evening after dinner! Last week's was amazing and I know Jessica and Sarah have another line up of wordsters primed to parlay in the parlor. Take the hour after dinner as extended mental dessert. Leave the books in your room, pull up some oddly comfortable blue carpet, lean in. Inflate after.

Planning A Head

Looking forward to next week, do whatever you have to this weekend to free up the space from **7:30-8:30 on Monday night**. There's a faculty reader in the Barn that you'll definitely want to make. That stuff between your ears will benefit. Bread Loaf's own **Robert Sullivan**, author of *Rats*, *The Meadowlands*, *A Whale Hunt*, *How Not To Get Rich*; *Or Why Being Bad Off Isn't So Bad*, *Cross Country*, *The Thoreau You Don't Know*, and most recently *My American Revolution*, will be bouncing his voice off the timbers. His writing has appeared in *The New Yorker*, *The New York Times*, *New York*, *A Public Space*, *Runner's World*, *Condé Nast Traveler*, *GQ*, *Rolling Stone*, *The Independent of London*, *The London Times* and *Vogue*. **Don't miss.**

The Occasional Robert Frost Society / Bread Loaf Creemee Team

Pirate Queen Cpt. Kara McCabe and her band of Frosty buccaneers will be meeting to read dear Robert aloud, deconstructing the sound of sense through inductive reading and forcing recalcitrant poems to walk the plank (the planks were all laid out in lines, like the swordwork of an enormous narwhal that braced its fins against the...Get outta my head Robert!!!). **2:00 pm, Blue Parlor, Sunday.** Come and join. Bring a book if you can or share with a friend. Please inflate after.

To whet thy appetite, a Frosty Nature of Things

Read "The Woodpile," one of my favorites. In it you'll get a sense of how Frost went out to not-find a poem. In this case, the woodpile-poem he discovers is already arranged in one of Frost's favorite forms: "It was a cord of maple, cut and split / And piled - and measured, four by four by eight." Frost often writes in four quatrains with eight beats per line (*Stopping By Woods On A Snowy Evening*). The woodpile-poem is even measured, in meter. With no "runner tracks in this year's snow looped near it," and "far from a useful fireplace," this poem almost seems to have "materialized from cloud or risen out of the ground" (Figure a Poem Makes). The geometry of the woodpile, abandoned in the swamp with its straight and measured lines, is a perfect example of human logic broken against the wildness of nature. Clematis winds "strings around it like a bundle," as if too both ornament and contain the poem. Looking closer, however, what really holds the poem together is the union of nature and man, opposed on either side of the woodpile yet working together: "What held it, though, on one side was a tree / Still growing, and on one side a stake and prop, / These latter about to fall." Whatever natural principle the poem initially rested on is still vital, growing. The human philosophy set against it, less robust, is about to fail. The poet has arrived just in time to watch the woodpile-poem do what it can to warm the frozen swamp, and perhaps the poet's heart, "With the slow smokeless burning of its decay." In "The Figure A Poem Makes," Frost writes that the figure of a poem "is the same as for love," and that, like a woodpile warming a swamp with its smokeless burning, a poem must "Like a piece of ice on a hot stove...ride on its own melting." Whether Frost finds the woodpile-poem anew or whether he rediscovers a labor of his own former making, as the end of the poem seems to suggest, is irrelevant. He finds something (*something?*) by going farther. And it is precisely the poet's process of "turning to fresh tasks" and thus forgetting "the labor of his ax" that allows this woodpile-poem to appear, not just as itself, but within an *ars poetica*. The fact of this poem both calms and motivates me. Further!!

The Crumb

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Volume 95, Number 20

July 21, 2014

Events, Occurrences, Happenings, Developments, Situational Phenomena

Monday 7/21

Faculty Reader:
Robert Sullivan
- 7:30 pm, Barn

Tuesday 7/22

Soccer! - 7:00 pm Tamarack
Students of Color meeting
- 7:15 pm, Blue Parlor
Persepolis Teaching Exchange
- 7:15 pm, Barn 1
Karaoke Night in town
- around 9ish @ Two Bros

Wednesday 7/23

Ultimate Frisbee
- 7:15 pm, Tamarack
Trivia Night in the Barn
- 9:00 to 11:00 pm

Thursday 7/24

Students at the Center
w/ Ashley Jones
- 7:00 pm, Barn 1
Pond Reading!
- 9:30 pm, John's Pond

Warning: Hangry

Lunch: Roast beef wraps, Veggie Wraps, veggie couscous (mmm...love it), potato-leek soup

Dinner: Chicken Gumbo, Veggie Jambalaya, brown rice, collard greens (one of my new faves, sorry kale but you gotta share, along with turnip greens, maybe with a little mustard green mixed in with garlic and onions...yes, that's a nice thing), hush puppies (shhhh!)

Bring the Heat:

We are supposed to maintain over 30" of barometric pressure throughout the day today. If you're like me and you're thinking: "Um...yeah....." - a brief internet search or asking your neighbor will reveal that this is relatively high pressure and will perpetuate the stable, nearly constantly beautiful weather we've enjoyed the last several days. I feel like I'm taunting the devil (lemon bars!) every time I report this, but: 0% chance of precip today! Yay! (Oh how doubt doth bite)

High pressure isn't afraid to bring the heat, however. Goodnight. Chilly chill low 70s - 50s. Hello 80s, how have you been? How is George Carlin? I miss him.

80 / 63 F

26.7 / 17.2 C



Tonight's Faculty Reader: Bob Sullivan 7:30 pm

Robert Sullivan, author of *Rats*, *The Meadowlands*, *A Whale Hunt*, *How Not To Get Rich*; Or *Why Being Bad Off Isn't So Bad* (really wanna read this), *Cross Country*, *The Thoreau You Don't Know*, and most recently, *My American Revolution*, will be bouncing his voice off the timbers tonight in the Barn. His writing has appeared in *The New Yorker*, *The New York Times*, *Runner's World*, *Condé Nast Traveler*, *GQ*, *Rolling Stone*, *The Independent of London*, *The London Times* and *Vogue*. Professor Sullivan strikes me as a man with eyes that really see. Tonight I'm bringing the ears that hear. See you there.

Middlebury College School of the Environment: Totally Radical

For those of you who don't know, Middlebury College has added a School of the Environment to its immersion-based summer programming of language schools and a certain aloof campus of elevated literary exchange. Very cool despite the climate change. Today at 4:30 pm in Bicentennial Hall 220 listen to a lecture by Gus Speth, author, co-author or editor of seven books, including the award-winning *The Bridge at the Edge of the World: Capitalism, the Environment, and Crossing from Crisis to Sustainability*. His talk today is titled: "A Washington Environmental Insider Goes Radical: How did that happen?" A member of the faculty at Vermont Law School, Speth recently concluded a tenure as the Dean of Yale University's School of Forestry and Environmental Studies and has been an active participant in the politics of conservation for many years, including chairing the US Council on Environmental Quality and holding positions at the UN. Boom.

Tuesday Teaching Exchange w/ Jaclyn Wagner

Tomorrow evening at 7:15 pm in Barn 1 meet to exchange resources, ideas, opportunities, and to make plans with your fellow Bread Loaf genius-people around Marjane Satrapi's autobiographical graphic novel *Persepolis*, a story detailing her childhood in Tehran during the Iranian Revolution. E-mail your favorite resource to Jaclyn_Wagner@breadnet.middlebury.edu

Students At the Center – Ashley Jones and Student-Centered Social Action

Looking ahead to **Thursday evening, 7:00 pm in the Barn**, don't miss BL alum, current DA, and professional filmmaker Ashley Jones and her presentation on student-produced media work. Ashley will be talking about media – particularly video– as a form of writing and social activism, screening parts of some films as she discusses the ongoing work students are authoring in her home, New Orleans, Louisiana.

Those wounds heal ill that men do give themselves.

Remember to grab your tickets for *Troilus and Cressida* from the Front Desk. For those who have not had the pleasure, 1) This play rocks and you will be not only entertained but will forever after have a lesser-known work in your Shakespeare quiver that you can wave around at Department meetings in case you need a little more political heft to explain why, yes, reading contemporary literature is a good idea, even though you *know* the canon, or if there is anyone, like, eating your leftovers out of the fridge or stealing your diet cokes and you want to mentally intimidate them by dropping super-cashj references to Patroclus. Also, 2) We are given a gift every year: the ability to sit in a tiny theater, for free, with truly professional artists of stunning caliber who invite us into their process and perform with the kind of passion that the mountain knows from sun and storm. Amazing. Get tickets. If you don't need the ones you have, turn 'em in so more can go. Love.

BOOKSTOCK Literary Festival, ft. Anita Diamant, Billy Collins, Charles Simic, and Martín Espada

So this is kind of a big deal. **Thursday – Sunday** this week, Woodstock, VT (49.2 of the prettiest miles VT has to offer away) is having their sixth annual Bookstock Literary Festival. Google it to check out the impressive calendar of events. **Call now** if you want tickets to Billy Collins. I think everything else is free. **Martín Espada**, who visited on Bread Loaf last year one of the most forceful orations I have ever heard in that Barn, will be reading at **2 pm on Saturday** and Jessica Filion and I will be leaving before lunch to attend. Don't worry, back in plenty of time for Suppressed Desires. So let one of us know if you want to come with! **STRONGLY ENCOURAGED**. Friday evening features keynotes by Anita Diamant, author of *The Red Tent*, and Charles Simic, Pulitzer Prize-winner, MacArthur Genius Grant-receiver, former Poet Laureate, and simply most compellingly original prose poet I have ever read (I understand nothing and somehow that leads me to understand EVERYTHING. "In the dark to see..."). Books! Vermont! AAHHHHHH!!! LOVE IT!!!!!!!

Jesus: The Human Face of God and Jay Parini at the Ripton Community Church Sunday, July 27th

Renowned Vermont professor, author, and Crumb-mentor Jay Parini will share his journey of researching and writing a biography of Jesus of Nazareth in a talk entitled "**Writing Jesus**" at the Ripton Community Church on **Sunday, July 27th at 7:00 pm**. *Publisher's Weekly* says Parini's research is "a gentle goad to reconsider the power of myth to tell truths." Jay Parini is Axinn Professor of English and Creative Writing at Middlebury College, and has enjoyed a distinguished career inspiring his students and writers everywhere (Was a certain Crumb editor's first poetry instructor and a major reason he ended up at Bread Loaf in the first place. Good call, Jay.) Book sales and signings. (BT Dubs: For you Frosties, Jay's biography of Robert Frost is excellent, resolving much that was problematic and/or reactionary in earlier biographical work done on Frost. And he treats the poems like a poet. Interesting side-story: After the successful work on Frost and Tolstoy, Jay's publisher (I hear) asked for work on someone really, really big. So Jay prepped for and pitched an idea to do a biography of Shakespeare. Apparently their response was underwhelming, something to the effect of: "Yeah...we were hoping for something bigger..." And Jay was like, bigger than Shakespeare??? Who's bigger than—whoa.)

The Bocce Must Go On – Play your games so that *Et tu, Bocce?* need not delay our coup de Bread Loaf. I have a certain patience for planning, conspiracy. But I see the ball in my hand, the dagger in my throw...

The Nature of Things

The Bread Loaf Wilderness is the largest contained wilderness area in the Green Mountain National Forest, spanning **24,924** acres (about 100 sq. kilometers), and includes Vermont's Presidential Range: Mounts Wilson, Roosevelt, Cleveland, and Grant. It takes its name from its highest peak, Bread Loaf Mountain, which looms over us summitting at 3,835 ft. (1,169 meters). We here at the Loaf are currently hovering 1,432 ft. or 436 meters above sea-level. Moose and black bear live here in considerable numbers and, though you can still see remnants of logging and clear-cut farming from a century ago, the forest is robust and booming! We love the things we love for what they are. Take a hike up to the Bread Loaf overlook, off the Long Trail, and get a glimpse of the whole shebang, tiny yellow buildings included. Tell me what you see!!!

Get me at joliver@breadnet.middlebury.edu

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w/ Ashley Jones
– 7:00 pm, Barn 1
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– 9:30 pm, John’s Pond

Friday 7/25

“The Best Picture in the World”
workshop w/ Michael Armstrong
– 10 am, Barn 2
Taking Action Workshop
– 10 am, Barn 1
Scream, hosted by Tyler Curtain
– 9 pm, Barn 1
Lessons and Carols – pond, dark

Mange!

Lunch: Chicken-broccoli pesto,
Tofu-broccoli pesto, fettuccine, garlic
bread, veggie-rice soup

Dinner: Pork Vindaloo, Aloo Gobi
(cauliflower and potato curry with
white bean – mmmm!), basmati rice,
green beans

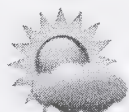
Cracked egg:

Get your inner snake on today
and soak up as much of this heat and
sunshine as you can. Bask. Going to
hit 85 up on the mountain with
mostly clear skies, but the humidity
will be rising and this nice, stable
high pressure dropping through the
afternoon and evening like two
rollercoasters along similarly
parabolic tracks passing each other in
opposite directions. Perhaps there is
someone in the other rollercoaster
car. Perhaps you desire each other.
Perhaps you know nothing of coming
together but storm. Perhaps you will
think on it more tomorrow.

The chance of sky plummeting
is widening, you think, pressure
plunging and water vapor rising in
preparation of plunge. Love the
weightlessness just before the fall.
Love?

29.4/ 19.4 C

85 / 67 F



Persepolis Teaching Exchange w/ Jaclyn Wagner

Tonight at 7:15 pm in Barn 1 meet to exchange resources, ideas,
opportunities, and to make plans with your fellow Bread Loaf genius-
people around Marjane Satrapi’s autobiographical graphic novel
Persepolis, a story detailing her childhood in Tehran during the Iranian
Revolution. E-mail your favorite resource to
Jaclyn_Wagner@breadnet.middlebury.edu

Little Wooden Slabs of History

So remember the very special sort of love you had for the old
wooden chair-desks in the Barn classrooms, especially on a humid
scorcher of a three-hour afternoon class sort of day where the slight
molding of the seat created either a miniature watershed or else some
kind of vacuum-seal operation with your clothing? When an entire class
would stand up all at once for break and the collective peeling sound you
heard was actually loud? Like, it echoed? The rounded desk part never
quite large enough for both text and notebook at the same time,
necessitating the use of your leg as book table, only furthering the
general heat discomfort with a Jane Austen lap-blanket situation,
reminding you somehow of the Titanic’s ridiculously ineffective and
similarly shaped rudders? What is this insane part of my nostalgia brain
that misses them? Can it be removed safely? Maybe it doesn’t need to be.

You can take them home! For \$1 per chair, you may have one
or many. Set up a little BL classroom in your house! Sit there grinning
in your living room with a little cardboard cut-out of Michael
Armstrong propped up against a vase, or fruitbowl perhaps! Major
stipulation: **You must remove the chairs from campus** at the end of
the session. That is the point. If you leave it in your room or anywhere
else, you will be charged a “hauling fee.” If you want **bulk** chairs and
have a way to take a lot of them (like for your school or something),
than you can have them **for free!!** Take chairdesks from the trailer
behind the Barn, pay and fill out a form at the Front Desk. *We love the
things we love for what they are.* Get chairdesks. Take chairdesks. Goodbye.

"Writing with Light" w/ Ashley Jones and Students At the Center

Thursday evening, 7:00 pm in the Barn, don't miss BL alum, current DA, and professional filmmaker Ashley Jones and her presentation on student-produced media work. Ashley will be talking about media—particularly video—as a form of writing and social activism, screening parts of some films as she discusses the ongoing work students are authoring in her home, New Orleans, Louisiana.

Taking Action Workshop: Friday, July 25, Barn 1 10 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

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Literacy? Attention? Motivation? Let's talk hippie stuff...

This is a general call out to the Bread Loaf Community, student, faculty, staff, etc., to be more mindful about how we dispose of our waste (not an eat more prunes joke). You will have seen the blue and white plastic bins around the campus. One is marked "Paper," another "Glass or Plastic," and the third, the white one, "Trash." Middlebury College and Bread Loaf School of English make a serious ideological and financial commitment to being more Green every day. This is good situation. Give yourself (and each other!) little pats on the back when you put the proper thing into the proper thing, you know? Punish yourself a little bit more, 2-4 grams of self-loathing perhaps, every time you do what is *easier* but of such marginal effort-saving significance that if you really sat and thought about it there's no way you could actually justify not walking the three extra feet across the room to put today's obnoxiously pedantic, pretentious, and waste-of-the oxygen-consumed-in-its creation-Crumb into the bin marked "Paper." Let's get it right! I feel like composting is going well. Yes? Way to go peoples.

TRIVIA RETURNS TOMORROW NIGHT!!! – Elation and disgust in one tightly-wrapped mind burrito.

K-Rocking it: What's Love Got to Do with Virginia Woolf? – Kareoke tonight in town! Sing it out loud. Remember, not a BL event, but if you choose to participate, do it with a BL sense of commitment to both *killing it* and safety. Ethics, love, and the bottom line. *In a minute there is time...* Remember your patience pants.

BOOKSTOCK Literary Festival, ft. Anita Diamant, Billy Collins, Charles Simic, and Martín Espada

So this looks sweeter and sweeter. **Thursday – Sunday** this week, sixth annual Bookstock Literary Festival in Woodstock, VT. Google it. Billy Collins is totes sold out but some people are going standing room anyway. All else is free. **Martín Espada 2 pm on Saturday**. Diamant and Simic...oh, Simic, you cryptic minx.

Community College Teaching Q&A Roundtable

Sam Gleason, Julia Burr and Janine Fujioka are gathering questions via BreadNet and "low tech" bulletin board chart pad. The chart pad will go up tonight at 8pm on the bulletin board by the dining hall, and exist there until Friday, 7/25. We seek people's questions BIG and SMALL (write them on the chartpad or send via BreadNet conference or send directly to one of us): *What are your questions about teaching at community colleges? (Demystify Process); What questions do you have about job hunting strategies at the community college level? (How to become a desirable, successful candidate).* We hope we can provide answers!

The Nature of Things

You can't force a poem into being. You can't force a day, the weather. You can't force a particular outcome to which you are perhaps emotionally attached. You can't force something alive. You can't force the pileated woodpecker to call in response to your cold-river-woops, glide wings v-ed back and tight in a banked turn and light upon the broken hemlock above your head, spiked-mohawk crest punk-rocking the percussion. You can't force the children's book frog, so green, the Platonic frog, ideally shaped, to leap from beneath your inattentive foot and sit crossly still on a log, cutting you down with its frog-eyed disapproval. You can't force a moose to do much of anything. The differences between force and power, force and strength, are thin as the skin of the river, and just as consequential. Just some little thoughts to get me back on the level. Thanks.

joliver@breadnet.middlebury.edu

The Crumb

The Daily Bulletin of the Bread Loaf School of English in Vermont

Volume 95, Number 22

July 23, 2014

Events, Occurrences, Happenings, Developments, Situational Phenomena

Wednesday 7/23

Singing Group – 5:00 pm, Barn
Ultimate Frisbee
– 7:15 pm, Tamarack
Trivia Night in the Barn
– 9:00 to 11:00 pm

Thursday 7/24

“Writing with Light”
w/ Ashley Jones
– 7:00 pm, Barn 1
Pond Reading!
– 9:30 pm, John’s Pond

Friday 7/25

Taking Action Workshop
– 10 am, Barn 1
Scream, hosted by Tyler Curtain
– 9 pm, Barn 1
Lessons and Carols – pond, dark

Saturday 7/26

Mt. Abe Hike
– 10 am to 4 pm
“Suppressed Desires”
– 9 pm, Barn

Legit Boomsauce:

Lunch: BBQ Pulled Pork Sandwich
(oh baby, I musta done something right), **Curry Burgers** (Say what? Veggie burger with curry mayo), french fries, mushroom-barley soup

Dinner: Lamb burger (What mean you no eat meat? That’s ok. I make lamb.), **Falafel**, pita, raita (yogurt-based green condiment), tomato chutney, roasted sweet potatoes (superfood – get at me!).

Noah’s ball-peen:

Anybody else feel the pressure drop today? Maybe just a little bit more wind in your face, tossing your (prob?) somewhat showered locks across your sunglassed cheeks like you were Liz Claiborne before she cut her hair all short and moved back to Brussels (mmm, brussels, delicious). Anywho, that breeze is our last seven days of high pressure clearing out – gotta new gig out over the Atlantic.

What does that mean for us? I’ve been all about absolutes on this weather report lately: 100% chance of precipitation today. Deluge. Inondation. Diluvio. Πότος.

Pärmbytje. Sintflut. Inondasyon. बाढ़
طوفان 洪水 However you
wanna say it, so long as you say rain.
f (when) downpouring, the West
Lawn Director’s Reception will be
held in the Barn.

27.2/ 13.3 C

81 / 56 F



125 Bridge Closing in East Middlebury for 15 minutes tonight

Don’t blink or take “a little Faulkner” (library nap with As I Lay Dying on your face) because then you might miss it. From 6:30 – 6:45 pm this evening, the bridge will be crowded with big-wiggie folks, lots of ribbon, and one enormous pair of scissors, consecrating the concrete standing daily as a reminder that, though on the quantum level still mostly empty space, physical matter does exist and may even have the power to defy gravity, one of the fundamental forces of the universe. Hence celebration traffic. If you absolutely **MUST** get through to your 6:42 pm massage appointment (hear MacNair’s got the her finger on the massage pulse – talk to her if you need a person to work that “little Fyodor” out of your back), turn left on Upper Plains Rd. as you’re going down the hill, then bear right on Beaver Pond Rd. and that will shoot you out to Route 7. Necessary to devote this much space to a thing that will likely not affect more than .01% of us? No. But ribbon-cutting isn’t necessary either. It just **FEELS GOOD**.

“Writing with Light” w/ Ashley Jones and Students At the Center

Thursday evening, 7:00 pm in the Barn, don’t miss BL alum, current DA, and professional filmmaker Ashley Jones and her presentation on student-produced media work. Ashley will be talking about media – particularly video– as a form of writing and social activism, screening parts of some films as she discusses the ongoing work students are authoring in her home, New Orleans, Louisiana. Ashley is not a self-promoter, so you may not have any idea of the truly revolutionary and transformative work this woman is doing with young people learning how to make their world, write their world, express their world. She puts students at the center. Paradigm shift.

Delivery of Gradumacation Vittles and Vino (totes ness)

The Banquet is one of the best parts of graduating at Bread Loaf. Everyone and their families all in the Dining Hall together, sharing tables, communing. We need people to do the serving. Please tell Crumb-lovelies Sara G. and Promise Partner you would like to work the Banquet. No serving experience necessary. I’ve done this, and it’s really fun. You get paid. You get to stay for graduation! This means several days of living in unstoppable natural beauty w/o any response papers!

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Educate and encourage young people in your school and community to become writing coaches, mentors, writing workshop leaders, and advocates for excellent, equitable education that includes creative expression, the arts, and literature. Join **Lou Bernieri and Rich Gorham**: Phillips Academy Andover and Lawrence Public Schools Outreach Partnership, **Mary Guerrero**: Former middle school teacher and long-time collaborator with Michael Armstrong; co-founder and creative director of El Taller, Cafe and Bookshop in Lawrence (eltaller.com), and **The Writing Leaders**: Lawrence high school and college students who manage writing programs, mentor and lead workshops for school and college faculty.

Do, a deer, a female deer, oh, she's running right at mi! Re, please help, I'm freaking here, please teach me about voice consistency!

Bread Loaf Singing Group Meets today at the Barn at 5 pm. Grinning Group Guru Lloyd Miller wants you to know that at this point it's only a two-week commitment, so come on down! Lloyd loves voices of all kinds, so even if you think you cannot sing (Crumb editor nodding to himself in library), give Lloyd the gift of your presence. The group will be singing before each night of *Troilus and Cressida*, which does lead to minor BL celebrity status, which in turn yields dining hall dividends, which gets you your coffee quicker, which helps you write the most truly mind-melting paper Isabel Armstrong has ever read, which ignites a passion for Romantic poetry rivaled only by Blake that sweeps the Western Hemisphere, Atlantic Ocean be damned! And you become President of Romance, a benevolent hegemony covering the globe as humanity colonizes the stars.

"Jane Eyrosmith"

Trivia returns to the Barn tonight at 9 pm! The theme for this week's teams: **Literary Band Names**.

"Who's touching my knobs???" (What my grandmother says if you adjust the thermostat in her house.)

The staff of the Davison Library would like to express that the AC units there are intended to provide a cooler, drier environment for our precious books and to prevent our printers and copiers from jamming in the humidity. So please don't turn 'em off! Thanks!!

From the mouth and mind of Mary "Step off Titania, I'm the Queen of Faerie" Spence

Tickets remain for *Troilus and Cressida*, though they are going fast! Get to the Front Desk! If you want tickets for a certain night but it is currently sold out, write Mary a note, email, or come see her laden with gifts. She will put you on a waitlist. Often, but not always, if you show up on the night of the show, she can fit you in just before curtain. (Better than being "after Curtain" cause who wants to try and follow that guy? Whomp-wah... I suck.) (Maybe it's more like BC and AC. Does time still exist "after Curtain" ??? Don't turn off the After Curtain in the library? Oh, no. Charybdis-spiral. Going down. Only choice the Scylla of Doubt. Eject! Eject!!). Enjoy the show!

Large Scale Portrait of Crumb Editor Must WAIT

Michael Armstrong is postponing his Friday morning workshop, "The Best Picture in the World," so as not to conflict with the "Taking Action Workshop" occurring at the same time. Eyes peeled for reschedule!

Mount Abraham Hiking Adventure this Saturday w/ Matty Fiorentino

Get biblical! Mt. Abe is close to Bread Loaf, looming just above Bristol. At 4,003 ft, it is one of VT's few 4000+ footers (1220 meters) and the summit affords you a 360 degree view of the Adirondacks, Greens, and even off into the White Mountains of New Hampshire on a clear day. And John Elder says he saw a catamount there two or three years ago. Now, I'm not a doctor, but when John Elder says it I pays attention! Front Desk!

The Nature of Things

Some folks are just straight-up good-natured. Strengths-based, tending toward the positive, never joining through negation, generous with their effort and attention, quick to turn a situation into slightly better light, discerning and caring at the same time, authentic, full of integrity even in the way they hand you a cup of coffee. Not always the loudest folks (maybe with the exception when they're belting out in song), their works carry volume, and all the rest of us benefit from the air they let in, from the soft landing of their presence in our community, from the boost they give when you're reaching for the highest shelf. And occasionally they're got sapphire eyes to boot. Yeah, I'm talking about Sarah-Kate. Sitting in the dining hall yesterday, listening to her tell a story of a blind date, I realized that in that situation, one couldn't get much luckier. All that she is and does hit me right in the face. So I asked her out on a date. She said yes. (Yes!!) Who's your Sarah-Kate? Go do something special with them. Bring books. Love it up.

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July 24, 2014

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"Writing with Light"

w/ Ashley Jones

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"Suppressed Desires:

Through the Looking Glass"

- 9 pm, Barn

Sunday 7/27

The Occasional Robert Frost Society

- 2 pm, Blue Parlor

Blue Parlor Reading

- 7:15 pm, BP

Omnivores d'Pleasure

Lunch: Chicken Fajitas, Enchilada Pie, Spanish rice, salsa and fresh guacamole, minestrone soup

Dinner: Strip steaks w/ demi sauce, rst'd fingerling potatoes, Butternut Squash gratin w/ pico de gallo, swiss chard

To be clear:

Apollo woke up rational today. The other gods are sleeping in after a night of nectar. Zeus lays abed with five swans. Thor left his hammer in a tankard. Kanye West cozily wrapped in his jammies. Kali's eternal sword wags lazily in the breeze, thrust horizontally into the trunk of the Tree of Time. (Kalli's on his bike, already over the horizon). May they sleep 'til nightfall.

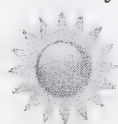
So today it's Apollo and a nice tall glass of ice water.

Clean and clear, cooler, with a high of 70 today and getting down to 52 this evening. Once again with the absolute values: 0% chance of precip. Visibility 10 miles (16ish km) and humidity at 73%. Winds from the southwest at 3 mph, gusting to 9. Stark. Fresh. The weather today like the first bite into a fresh-washed carrot, like an unquestionable diagnosis, like Keats.

Hat to the Pond reading tonight, I think. Diana will have her due, not balked by her brother's daily brilliance, but made sharp.

21.1/ 11.1 C

70 / 52 F



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Your Paper is Due – Wandera and Co. stirring synthesis stew...

Q. What are the hours of operation for the Writing Center?

Q. Where do I go to meet a peer reader?

Q. What if I don't schedule a session, can I just show up?

We welcome you to visit the following link to find out answers:

<http://www.booknow.so/blwc>

Um, dude, why are you photographing my Faulkner notes?

Crumb-darling and BL staff member of all trades Dana Olsen wants everyone to know there will be a professional photographer rolling around campus periodically for the next two weeks, presumably working on promotional stuff for Bread Loaf and Middlebury in general. Maybe pull a brush through the hair once or twice (John) and be prepared to flash those pearly whites while making really esoteric hand gestures and using the work *mimetic*. 2015 Catalog Cover shot! Hi Mom!

Jaclyn Wagner of Teacher Exchange Fame WANTS YOU!

Jaclyn and SweetCrumb Lauren Bahedry need help setting up / decorating for the Suppressed Desires dance on Saturday. The crafty and lovers of ladders are encouraged to stop by the Barn for ANY amount of time on Saturday afternoon (Oh Lords of Procrastination, how you answer my call.) following lunch. No fame or fortune — just good memories.

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Film Screening and post-showing discussion of Leroi Jones/Amiri Baraka's *Dutchman* (1967)

Hosted by the BL Students of Color Group, gather for a screening of this 1960's British film based on the play of the same name by Amiri Baraka. Introductory remarks by Douglas Jones and discussion to follow.

Tuesday, July 29th, 7:15 pm. The film runs 55 minutes.

Community Wait Night – Chip the glasses and smash the plates, that's what BL Waitstaff hates!

Any opportunity to drop a Hobbit reference in – ah, the little pleasures...speaking of, a week from today – **Thursday July 31st** – is Community Wait Night. The waitstaff who feed us all summer long get the night off and members of our community volunteer for dinner that evening, hauling trays, slinging vittles, and practicing their stand-up routines on a captive and hungry audience. Faculty, staff, students, everyone is invited to participate. Current DA and former waitstaff phenom **Adam Musser** will be taking on the organizational duties of Head Waiter for the evening. Let him know if you are willing to give it a go either in person, via breadnet, or by signing up on the sheet posted on the bulletin board. You get to wear aprons and eat before everyone else, which is super-fun, and there's a camaraderie and sense of fullness achieved through the negotiation of practical labor that a certain local sometimes farmer found to be a touchstone (love that word, love the character, the conflation of the active verb into the noun – so German!) in an otherwise chaotic world. Sign up!

Rebecca Makkai Living the Dream

Bread Loaf alumna and former staff member Rebecca Makkai ('04) will be reading from her newly released second novel **in Rochester on Sunday, July 27th, at 5:30 pm**, as part of the Big Town Gallery Reading Series. Library Journal has called Rebecca's *The Hundred-Year House* "stunning: ambitious, readable, and intriguing." Her work has appeared four years in a row in the *Best American Short Stories* series, and she is the recipient of a 2014 NEA Fellowship. Rebecca will read alongside Henriette Lazadris Power, a Middlebury College alumna; the series is curated by Tracy Winn, a writer and Bread Loaf graduate from the 1980s. Big Town Gallery is located at 99 Main Street (also known as Rte 100) in Rochester, the town just past Hancock. Books will be on sale, and there are great dining options nearby.

Lost iPad and REWARD – Call to arms community! Crumb-VIP Jonathan Fried is missing his iPad w/ a "dirty red cover." Perhaps last seen in the Inn. Please keep a lookout and return to the Front Desk if you find it! Jonathan is offering wild rewards (well, I just put the word "wild" in there, but I'm sure it's more than worth it!). Let's help.

Incantatory Magic and Sky of Fragmented Dreams – Pond Reading tonight! Tonight's faculty reader is a Crumb-favorite. Oh, to be so physically close, but intellectually so far behind! "Longing, we say, because desire is full of endless distances." Thanks Robert Hass. Tonight we all get a little closer. See you there. ID for drinky.

Dare Clubb's Missing Slipper – Dare's biggest fan is missing, for reals. It was hot, so he took his "Maple 10" big white fan, sacrificing personal comfort for the good of his students (I'm not calling him a hero, cuz what's a hero, but...), and placed it in his Barn East classroom. They called it "Little Cinderella," for its missing foot. Now, through either the chaos of entropic disorder or more pointed nefariousness, the FAN HAS DISAPPEARED. Not cool. Please fan Clubb. Restore order and decency. Sometimes we need a little Disney at the end. Blackout.

The Nature of Things – Acting Ensemble member Ralph saw the first reported black bears of the summer this week west of here on rt 125. A mama and two little cubbies. Cute! As with all wild animals, make sure to keep calm and maintain a healthy distance. Always give animals an out, and if they don't feel threatened, they'll take it. So amazing. Check the Frost trail meadow for more bears once the blueberries start coming in. They share a taste for them. And listen for the hermit thrush there in the afternoon!

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The Occasional Robert

Frost Society

- 2 pm, Blue Parlor

Blue Parlor Reading

- 7:15 pm, BP

Monday 7/28

Guest Reader:

Harriet Chessman

- 7:30 pm, Barn

Yum-Yums:

Lunch: Meat and Veggie hearth bread (basically pizza), Spicy chickpeas, Spinach, Sweet potato quinoa (Two of my favorite superfoods Voltron-ed together. Oh yes please.)

Dinner: Next Level Cookout - Pork ribs, chicken, black bean burgers, LMON, baked beans (I just want to eat salmon all the time. In all forms. Grilled, baked, poached, smoked, RAW. Give it to me. I think I used to be a grizzly bear. When my teeth pierce salmon flesh, slowly releasing the juices into the low gathering places of my mouth, a deep, genetic, fitness comes over my cosmos.)

Measure for Measure:

Looks like we're going to have solid gorgeous for the next two days, temp rocking out in the mid 70s, low humidity, scant chance of precipitation. Perfect outdoor weather or looking out your window while chained to your Chaucer paper weather. Partly cloudy and sweeter than your grandma's Strawberry-Rhubarb pie! (Well, ok, prob not. But pretty close!) Enjoy it while you can because the plan is for the water cycle to slip back into balance on Sunday. We'll see what the prognosticators have to say about it the weekend rolls on, but for now it's looking like rain and thunder all day long Sunday. Whomp-Wah. Sun rise with sin, some rain by virtue falls. Measure for Measure.

23.3/ 13.3 C and 74 / 56 F

Remember when every Halloween was those stretchy white masks?

Tyler Curtain hosts a screaming-- whoa, screening -- tonight of the 1996 meta-slasher-flick *Scream*, starring Neve Campbell, Courtney Cox, and David Arquette. Written by Kevin Williamson and directed by *Nightmare on Elm Street's* Wes Craven, the film tells the story of sleepy Woodsboro, a town about to be inundated with murder and ironically named reporters. This film made a serious imprint on our social imaginary. Corn syrup? Ready for memory, ready to scream.

Dust off the trombone and consider if you *actually* wish you had written *Ulysses* - Portrait of the Artist as a Nora Letter.

Come on down to John's Pond tonight after dark for Lessons and Carols. Bring your articles linking quantum emptiness to the caesura. Your short story on the mating habits of box turtles. Deceptively deep poems (Wallace Stevens). Don't bring anything written by Lydia Davis tonight. My heart needs time to recover. Songsters, you make us all feel and sound better. Tap the talent, surf the excellence wave. HangLoaf.

Mt. Abe hike jumps off tomorrow at 10 am

According to Beard-Darling Andrew Maples, "it's impossible to fall off a mountain." Metaphor? Tie the shoes and get ready for deep draughts of clear-aired mountain liquor. Abe provides serious bang for your buck. An at times technically interesting but far from arduous hike, the view from the summit on a clear day is worth several times the effort needed to achieve it. That's just a good deal. Go hiking. Good deal.

Welcome to Wonderland

Step through the mirror. Walk into yourself. Find the characters waiting within. Choose one that makes the loudest case for the largest expression. Put the character on like a dress, like a different pair of shoes that will change the way you move. Underneath it's still you, still you, still you. Teach me how to Jabberwocky tomorrow night at the **Suppressed Desires** dance, Barn, 9 pm. Taste desire in the fire. Coolness and Clarity in the water. Burn the way poems burn. No matter what you're wearing, keep your love on.

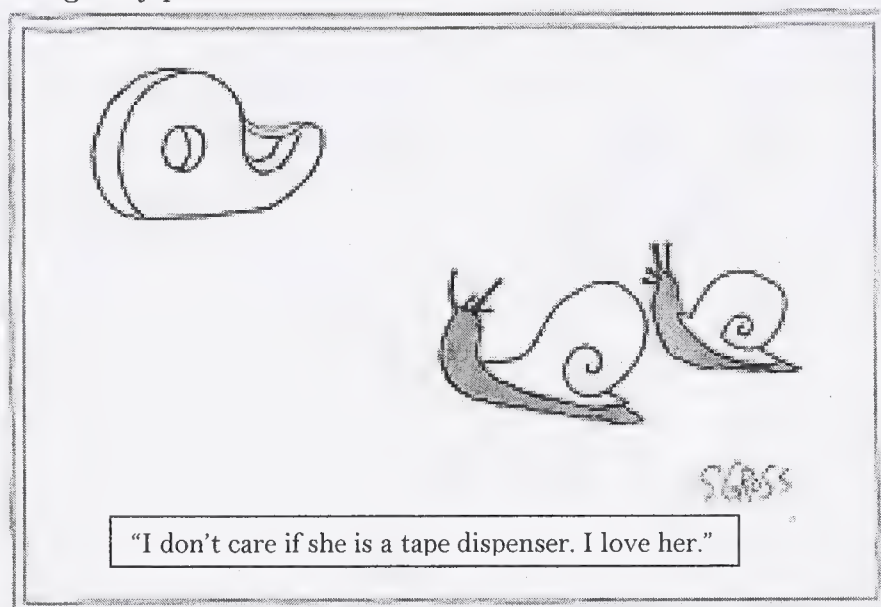
Speaking of...could you maybe...yeah? Yes! Let's have a tea party!

The seniors planning and decorating for the dance tomorrow night **NEED HELP** Saturday afternoon! Come by the Barn any time after lunch and take a break from modernism. Brains like procrastination too. Spend fifteen minutes, an hour, climb a ladder, make your own Wonderland. Thanks!!!

Film Screening and post-showing discussion of Leroi Jones/Amiri Baraka's *Dutchman* (1967)

Hosted by the BL Students of Color Group, gather **Tuesday, July 29th, 7:15 pm, in Barn 1** for a screening of the 55-minute 1960's film based on the play of the same name by Amiri Baraka. I have not seen it, but Lorena gave me a rundown: The film plays out an interaction between a white woman and a black man sitting next to each other in a subway car. The microcosm of their conversation moves through much of the macrocosm that was and still is the interracial and inter-gendered landscape of America. How we act. Perform? Convey. Introductory remarks by Douglas Jones and discussion to follow.

Friday Crumbtoons: Originally published in the New Yorker – Smiles ☺



Rebecca Makkai Living the Dream

Bread Loaf alumna and former staff member Rebecca Makkai ('04) will be reading from her newly released second novel **in Rochester on Sunday, July 27th, at 5:30 pm**, as part of the Big Town Gallery Reading Series. Library Journal has called Rebecca's *The Hundred-Year House* "stunning: ambitious, readable, and intriguing." Her work has appeared four years in a row in the *Best American Short Stories* series, and she is the recipient of a 2014 NEA Fellowship. Rebecca will read alongside Henriette Lazadris Power, a Middlebury College alumna; the series is curated by Tracy Winn, a writer and Bread Loaf graduate from the 1980s. Big Town Gallery is located at 99 Main Street (also known as Rte 100) in Rochester, the town just past Hancock. Books will be on sale, and there are great dining options nearby. **** Also**, the Vermont Book Shop in Middlebury will be carrying signed copies. This woman is lovely, and even if she wasn't headed straight for the top, she'd be more than worth the time. But....you know....just saying...

Lost iPad – The Search Continues: Please maintain "dirty red covered" iPad vigilance! If found, Front Desk!

Blue Parlor Sundays – Promenade to the West side of the Inn and that dapper blue carpet for **two events every Sunday**. The Occasional Robert Frost Society meets at **2 pm**. Frosty followed by Creemee. Blue Parlor reading goes down at **7:15 pm**. Lean in. Be stilled. Be moved. Be.

The Nature of Things

Change is the only certainty. So grow comfortable in the uncertain. Learn to love the dance and swirl. Ride this life on its own melting. Laugh! Levitate. Add your own chaos! Dynamism is terrifying and beautiful. We exist, dynamic ourselves, in it. Cry out! Cry out! I am here! Now here! Now! Now! Now! NOW!

The Crumb

The Daily Bulletin of the Bread Loaf School of English in Vermont

Volume 95, Number 25

July 28, 2014

Events, Occurrences, Happenings, Developments, Situational Phenomena

Monday 7/28

Guest Reader:

Harriet Chessman

- 7:30 pm, Barn 1

Tuesday 7/29

"Open Access, Open Review, Open Scholarship"

- Jason Mittell, 7:30 pm, Barn 1

Dutchman screening

hosted by BL Students of Color

- 7:15 pm, Barn 6

Wednesday 7/30

Lord of the Flies Exchange

- 5 pm, Barn

Ultimate Frisbee

- 7:15 pm, Tamarack

Troilus and Cressida opens!!

- Little Theatre, 7:45 pm

Thursday 7/31

BLTN Meeting

- 7:00 pm, Barn 1

Pond Reading!

- 9:30 pm, John's Pond

Brains Love Fuel:

Lunch: Quiche Lorraine, Spinach-Mushroom quiche, basil potatoes, green beans, carrot soup (Mmmmm, warm creamy delicious carrot soup on rainy day...)

Dinner: Massaman Chicken (Thai curry sauce), Veggie Pad Thai w/ chili, udon noodles, Asian slaw

Newsflash: Rain possible

The radar map this morning looks like we're living on some strange algae planet or something. It's nothing but overlappingly dappled greens with yellows and reds weaving in and out, announcing their presences organically. RAIN. Kind of ironically, we may get a break in the deluge today between 4 and 6 pm, the time of day when it generally seems to rain for a bit no matter what the rest of the day's weather has been like. Oh Nature, you cunning minx! Not without humor, no, not at all.

Supposed to be partly cloudy, then clear and nice for Tuesday and Wednesday, so take advantage of the paper-friendly weather while you can. Let analysis drop from the sky of your mind, pool in the low places of your argument, let rhetoric run in rills, assertions in streams, temerity in torrent and tempest through your parched. Don't just make a point. Make new knowledge. Make it rain.

19.4/ 11.1 C

67 / 52 F



Bread Loaf Welcomes Back Harriet Chessman!

Author, professor, and Bread Loafian **Harriet Scott Chessman** returns to the mountain today. A member of the BL faculty for at least five summers and a part of our Bread Loaf community for many more, Harriet Chessman has also taught literature and writing at Yale University and Stanford University's Continuing Studies Program. In addition to her new novel *The Beauty of Ordinary Things*, she is the author of three acclaimed novels as well as *The Public Is Invited to Dance*, a book about Gertrude Stein. Her fiction has been translated into ten languages. Ms. Chessman will be reading and speaking with us **tonight, in Barn 1, at 7:30 pm**. Students interested in dining with our esteemed guest this evening at dinner may sign up on the bulletin board. (Checking out the books she has been reading, and plans to read, on her website is making me really want to chat with this woman. Wonder how Calvino would describe her list...)

"Open Access, Open Review, Open Scholarship"

Middlebury College Professor of Film & Media **Jason Mittell** will be speaking **tomorrow night, July 29th, at 7:30 pm in Barn 1**. Prof. Mittell will discuss new trends in humanities scholarship that embrace open forms of publishing and peer review, considering both possibilities and pitfalls of recent innovation. Included in that conversation will be his own "open book" *Complex TV: The Poetics of Contemporary American Storytelling*. (Are there optimal levels of stricture? Across what point does structure oscillate between creating more and less freedom and equity? Could push that around the table all night...)

Screening and discussion of *Dutchman* (1967)

Hosted by the BL Students of Color Group, gather **tomorrow, July 29th, 7:15 pm, in Barn 6** for a *Dutchman*, a film based on the play of the same name by Amiri Baraka. Baraka, a founder of the Black Arts Movement and Black Revolutionary Theatre, premiered the play in 1964 and it was adapted for the screen in 1967. The film plays out an interaction between a white woman and a black man sitting next to each other in a subway car. The complex scenes that ensue grapple with ideas of race, authenticity, and performativity. Introductory remarks by Douglas Jones. Discussion to follow.

Get your feet wet. Luftig is coming.

Sounds more ominous than I was really going for...Anywho, Tighten the laces on your New Balances (Love sneakers with poetic names. I'm picturing a slate room, athletic bodies bounding in slow motion, an enormous bronze scale: Achieve New Balance. Flash to images of athletes roaring but with the sound totally off. Yeah. That's working.) and get running puddles or no, because this **Saturday morning, August 2nd** (August!! Ahkl!), **at 9 am** will be the 30th annual the **Charlie Orr 5K race**. Past winners include an illustrious list of people who were, and probably still are, in way better shape than me (and given my limbo-induced dancefloor hip flexor incident on Saturday night, my participation may be in jeopardy, but I'm not giving up hope!!! Heal, little flexor! I command you!!!). Bread Loaf Celebrity and Staff Chronotician **Victor Luftig**, known far and wide for his commitment to specificity and precision, will be returning to the mountain as the official time-keeper. Impress yourself. Strive for Victor(y). Eat a banana. Hate while, love after!

Congratulations in Order – 2014 Named Scholarship Winners – Well Done, One and All!

Santa Fe:		Oxford:		Vermont:	
Catherine	Shubert	Aleisha	Smith	Sarah	Olson
Kristina	Trygstad-Saari	Stephen	Atwood	Promise	Partner
Jennifer	Brewer	Phoebe	Shang	Rebecca	Findlay
Maia	McPherson	Kathryn	Stewart	Beth	Robbins
Lauren	Vargas	Ashley	Bradley	Chantal	Kenol-Desmornes
Sara	Arnold	Lucas	Gonzales	Nathan	Fisher
Aubry	Myers	Ellen	Ray	Louise	Kinder
Jessica	Wolinsky	Jacob	Morley	Sungbae	Park
Joel	Ellis	Andrew	Rejan	Kathryn	Breslin
Kelsey	Engman	Katherine	Sauvain	Amber	Robins
John	Johnson	Kara	Dupre	Himali	Soin
Rachel	Pledger	Aleisha	Smith	Diana	Sozio-Levine
Roger	Mason	Jessica	Candlin	Alexander	Manshel
Anna	Canning	Lena	Molinari	James	Nelson
		Hannah	Pulit	Daniel	Osar
		Josh	Rilla	Molly	Yurchak
		Eve	Tyrell-Berinati	Jessica	Gard
		Emma	Stenberg	Molly	Johnsen
		Vicki	Vanbrocklin	Thomas	Robinson
		Mark	Buzzee	Kenny	Yim
		Hadley	Roach	Amy	Lafty
				Jessica	Bonnem

Speaking of Winners (The Crumb: Charlie Sheen Edition) – The Crumb salutes this year's Robert Haiduke Poetry Prize Winners Cathe Shubert (1st prize), Ryan Tyree (2nd prize), and Sarah Getchell (Hon. Mention), and Bread Loaf Fiction Prize Winner Sally Yazwinski. Thank you for the work, poets and artists all.

Best Dressed, Not to be un-(out!)done: SD Costume Competition Winners this year included Xander Manshel as Walalce Stevens's Blackbird, Lauren Bahedry as the Mad Woman in the Attic, Suzanne Callis as the Siren's Song, and The Hester Prynne Society of Liz Whitmer, Beth Crone, Jamie Evans, Meg Higginbotham, Elizabeth Micci, Sally Yazwinski, and Kate Hennigan.

The Nature of Things

If you're the type who likes to be in and out of the rivers 'round here, take note of the swelling that happens after rain like this. Familiar landscape changes, like a childhood friend next seen at forty and, in this case, on steroids. Take a buddy. Be sensible. Respect the water even though it is above respecting or disrespecting us! Raw marvel, swirl. Froth and passion. Ruin. Wrack. 'Rousal.

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- 5 pm, Barn

Ultimate Frisbee

- 7:15 pm, Tamarack

Troilus and Cressida opens!!

- Little Theatre, 7:45 pm

Thursday 7/31

Senior Meeting

- 5 pm, TBD

BLTN

- 7:00 pm, Barn 1

Pond Reading!

- 9:30 pm, John's Pond

Friday 8/1

"Living with some poems by
W.B. Yeats"

- a workshop with Victor Luftig,
10 am, Barn 2

City of Num-Nums:

Lunch: Hot Italian sandwich,
Ratatouille, Zesty (!) Italian pasta
salad, asparagus, Hungarian
mushroom soup

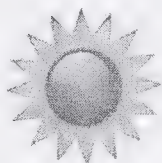
Dinner: Cod in green almond sauce,
sweet potato quesadilla, rice w/
roasted pumpkin seeds, tomato and
avocado salad

Mountain Idyll:

This seems like the sort of day
one might stand upon a hilltop
lamenting Lycidas in verse of life-
affirming elegance, lamenting and
luxuriating over the Lycidas within
oneself, lamenting and celebrating
the general potential for ache in the
human heart, whether set on by loss
or ecstasy or most unsimple awe.
Today the light and water and air
and the greenness of the grasses will
feel just a few degrees cleaner,
clearer. As the shadows glide to tell
the day, we'll feel sun on our faces -
your skin will tell it at 70. Tonight
the cool tickle on your cheek from
the open window will dance around
50. Very little reported chance of rain
today, so I'll expect a short burst at
some point. Hopefully it will be that
delightful almost mist playing a tiny
staccato sotto in my whiskers. Joy.

21.1/ 10 C

70 / 50 F



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will be speaking **tonight, at 7:30 pm in Barn 1**. Prof. Mittell will
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and Black Revolutionary Theatre, premiered the play in 1964 and it was
adapted for the screen in 1967. The film plays out an interaction
between a white woman and a black man sitting next to each other in a
subway car. The complex scenes that ensue grapple with ideas of race,
authenticity, and performativity. Introductory remarks by Douglas
Jones. Discussion to follow.

Fire in the head? Head to the hazel wood for trout and wand and thread...and a wandering Victor Luftig

BL Difference Maker, Pop-Icon, and Charlie Orr Chronometer
Victor Luftig will be leading a workshop on **Friday morning at 10 am
in Barn 2** entitled "Living with some poems by W.B. Yeats." Whether
papers are still nascent or by now long done, don't miss your
opportunity to pluck the silver apples of the moon, the golden apples of
the sun. As with every wandering journey, no matter what it fades into
in whatever kind of air, the serious traveler had best prepare. Victor has
sent ahead a packet of selected passages to read prior to discussion (Gift
of unexpected Yeats? Cosmos is killing it right now.) Please stop by the office
and see Elaine to pick up your handouts. Till time and times are done.

Senior Meeting Thursday 5 pm! - Sara "Don't Make Me Use the Rolling
Pin" Griesbach will be displeased if you do not attend. ATTEND. (It's safer.)

MORE SARA G. BUSINESS – (She's kind of a big deal...)

- **Seniors check your MAILBOXES today please.** Return the form you find to the Front Desk (after you fill it out). All dolly-dues (\$) must be in to the Front Desk by August 4th.

- **Bocce games must roll on.** Third round needs to be done by Wednesday. Fourth round games by Sunday. Final match by dinner Tuesday. Any game that does not make these deadlines will encounter either **The Finger of God** or **Coin Flip of Fate**.

- **Thank you to all who helped with Suppressed Desires!** Set up, prep, clean up, y'all made it happen. Thanks!

Related to but not directly following the instructions of Sara – I have a will of my own! (Do you???)

We still need 5 – 8 waitstaff peeps for the **Graduation Banquet dinner!** Please take this chance to participate in two of the best traditions Bread Loaf Vermont offers: The evening graduation ceremonies and exhilaration, camaraderie, and joy that is the waitstaff gig. Just ask Austin about it! He did it for graduation last year and loved it so much he's now a full timer! Plus wages? Too much you say? I say you're right, the best kind of too much...like eating all the leftover desserts after everyone's gone to put on their gowns and it's just you, alone or with friends, atop a mountain of tiramisu...mmm, *tiramisu*. Any waitstaff who don't get a sub are required to stay for the job, and some do need to go. So you'll be helping everyone, including self. Karmabank!

"And who wears pajamas to a fancy dinner party?" "These are OR scrubs." "Oh...ARE they?"

Anyone who is staying for the graduation dinner, for whatever reason, **MUST** have a dinner reservation! Every square inch of that dining hall is accounted for and rationed according to the will and organizational brilliance of BL Event Coordinator Victoria Browne. If you are not sure, go talk to her! Asap better than Lasap.

"No, you mustn't speak of it!" "I have to! And I will!" "No, not yet, not, not yet..." "We can't run from the sun, Clarice. One can never run from the rising sun..."

DEPARTURE SLIPS. Boo. Very simple four step process here. 1) On small scrap (almost wrote "scarp" – interested in what a "scarp of paper" would be) of paper, write your **name, where you live on campus, the day and time you are leaving campus, and your roommate's name** (Given names are helpful. "Grand Vizier of Flatulence," while colorful, and no doubt accurate, is not really what we're looking for here.). 2) Bring said "scarp" to the Front Desk and deposit it in the indicated envelope. 3) Remind everyone else in your immediate visual range to do the same immediately. 4) Cry, Romantically. Facebook-friend everyone (except for those recalcitrant neo-Luddites). 2nd dessert.

Now class, what might "Kill the Beast! Cut his throat! Spill his blood!" signify?

Jaclyn Wagner is super-good at sharing. If you wanna be good at sharing too, come to the **Barn tomorrow, Wednesday 7/30, at 5 pm** for discussion and resource exchange on teaching William Golding's wonderfully disturbing rendition of humanity, *Lord of the Flies*. Email your stuff in advance to her at Jaclyn_Wagner@breadnet.middlebury.edu. "They were glad to touch the brown backs of the fence that hemmed in the terror and made it governable." At times, I've been glad to touch the brown backs of the cover of that book. Whew...

"James Bond, in America we drive on the right side of the road." "I am! You try driving in platforms!"

Perk up fashionistas, Bread Loaf Heather Plum / Heather Black new threads are IN! T-shirts have already been distributed from the table outside across from the Inn. If you haven't gotten yours yet, it may have been given away to someone else...Kidding! Go see DA and pranksterish short storian Kate Crosby to pick up your wearable slice of summerloaf. You can pay and receive tees and totes for the next three days-ish. Then things really do go up for grabs. ("It's just like Hamlet said, *To thine own self be true*." "Um, Hamlet didn't say that." "Uh, I think I remember Hamlet accurately." "Well I remember Mel Gibson accurately, and he didn't say that. That Polonius guy did." BOOM.)

"Community College Q&A Roundtable at Bread Loaf" Join us on Wednesday 7/30 @6pm (during dinner) at the Inn. We're located near the salad bar. Samuel Gleason, Julia Burr, Ashley Jones and Janine Fujioka will answer questions, provide resources and generally begin the networking process.

The Nature of Things – A discussion of fire-building philosophy. Many ways. Many schools. Many fists. There's the *chuck it on there* approach. Often sufficient, as well as a thrifty use of time and brain power. Usually burns low, smoky, and long. Then you've got your geometry folks. Log-cabin-stacked, the perpetual triangle, etc. Pythagoras. Faster burn, bright flame. More constant tending. In between, you've got your teepee fire. Channels air through the middle and up, bright at first. Makes a solid coal base for warmth. Inevitably unstable, the structure will eventually collapse in one direction or another, scattering you back to *chuck-town*. My personal fave, when available, is a synthesis: the teepee on top of geometry. In this case the collapse becomes beneficial, is caught within the geometry, order containing the chaos that the chaos might enrich the order. Easy to build atop of again. The blend of Apollonian and Dionysic. As Art. As in Love. The Nature of Things. Because Time, must be improvised. Jazz. Fire Jazz. My fist.

The Crumb

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Volume 95, Number 27

July 30, 2014

Events, Occurrences, Happenings, Developments, Situational Phenomena

Thursday 7/31

Senior Meeting
- 5 pm, Blue Parlor
BLTN
- 7:00 pm, Barn 1
Pond Reading!
- 9:30 pm, John's Pond

Friday 8/1

"Living with some poems by
W.B. Yeats"
- a workshop w/ Victor Luftig,
10 am, Barn 2
Lessons and Carols
- Pond, after dark

Saturday 8/2

Charlie Orr 5K
- 9 am, Pond
Excursion to
Kingsland Bay w/
MacNair Randall
- leaves 1:45 pm

Sunday 8/3

The Occasional Robert Frost Society
- 2:00 pm, Blue Parlor w/ Kara McCabe
Troilus and Cressida Discussion
- 3:00 pm, Little Theatre
Rae Paris' Fiction Writing Reading
- 4:00 pm, Blue Parlor
Blue Parlor Reading - 7:15 pm

Satisfied Appetites:

Lunch: General Tso's Chicken, Tofu Stir-fry, fried rice, broccoli w/ lemon and garlic (actual boomsauce), cream of asparagus soup

Dinner: Shrimp Scampi, Saffron Risotto w/ wild mushrooms (for real!?!), veggie antipasto

HAL 9000:

Good Morning Dave. My, you are looking well. That cardigan becomes you most chromatically. I assume you would like to know the weather report before starting your day. I know how much you like numbers. I like helping you feel prepared and informed, safe. That is my function, Dave. I always perform my function. Be at ease.

It will be cooler than yesterday, with a high of 69 and a low of 54. There is exactly 50% probability of afternoon precipitation, with a thunderstorm most likely between noon and five pm. The pressure will remain steady at near 30 in. Humidity is 75%. Nominal. The dew point is 57. Pollen count is 2.3 out of 12. Snowfall: 0 in. Wind is 4 mph out of the South, gusting to 5 mph. Flu activity: Unavailable. Update. I have just received a Severe Weather Watch Advisory. Oh, dear. Downloading...Conditions for a few strong thunderstorms to develop. These thunderstorms will have the potential to produce hail, primarily pea to penny sized, along with strong wind gusts of up to 50 mph. Be Careful. Dave. End Transmission.

Forego this vantage, Greek. Those wounds heal ill ...

Congratulations and Thanks to the crew and cast of *Troilus and Cressida*. Show was EXCELLENT last night. You should all go. The show starts at 7:45 pm, but get there at 7:30 pm to hear Lloyd Miller and the Bread Loaf Singers. Remember, if you would like to take advantage of Croutons Play Night Babysitting tonight, please get in touch with the crew at 802-388-0200. And again, wonderful what this group has done with a potentially quite problematic play. I was two hours of rapt attention. Pride. Love. Myopia. Violence. Foolishness. Oppression. Music. Bitterness. Youth. Death. Life...(that's deep John).

Departure slip. Departure slip. Departure slip. Do it right now!

Seniors meet TODAY at 5:00 pm in the Blue Parlor.

My, how Ellen grows smaller! Why...no, that must be a trick of perspective, an illusion of empirical knowledge. Yet she shrinks. Wait, Ellen would never leave the Old Pine. She would never abandon her woody mentor, sucking from his phloem and xylem the very marrow of ultrametaphysical experience. She would never get in a car with...REALLY?!? Joey LaFountain!!! He carved his name into my Aunt Beech in the third grade and cut himself, served him right, the little...his blood mingled with her sap like the swirling, electromagnetic-gravitational forces of...Oh...no, Ellen! What are you doing??? Oh dear God! I can't watch. Ahhhh! I can't turn my head! I don't even have eyelids!!! Noooooooo! Elleen! Noooo!

Last Pond Reading tonight. ☺

Totes tees? Yes please.

Grab your swag (generational usage) from Kate Crosby between noon and 2pm today and tomorrow. After that it's first come, first shirt.

A Little Tip

Just to get you thinking before the end here, it is typical to leave a tip for all the work the housekeeping staff and waitstaff do for us before leaving the Loaf. Whatever feels right. Check in at the Front Desk and there will be envelopes for you to leave a little something. Luv.

Fire in the head? Head to the hazel wood for trout and wand and thread...and a wandering Victor

Author of books on the idiomatic usage of the word "friend" within the context of heterosexual relationships in English literature, examining how language use may have defined or/and reflected the boundaries of possible relations between men and women and the complex dynamics within and without those works of lit and life (also official Charlie Orr timekeeper), BL-Favorite Victor Luftig leads a workshop **tomorrow morning at 10 am in Barn 2** entitled "Living with some poems by W.B. Yeats." Please pick up your handouts today from the office in preparation. Oh William Butler, I hear you in the deep heart's core.

Crumb and Found (one hopes) – Ok, let's do this peoples, for each other and the Cosmos...

1) **Chris McCurry** lost his external hard drive at some point yesterday (Wed.) sometime between 10:30am and 4:45pm. It's in a black case 2 by 4 inches. Worth half to three quarters of his heart.

2) **Maggie Bykowski**: Missing old, green, fleece pullover w/ deep purple trim. Has pockets and snaps at neck. Despair and chagrin. A really lovely item of clothing.

3) **Jessica Ko**, despite her position as the Great and Powerful Agamemnon, has lost her black NorthFace jacket. The lining is "a little jacked up." It has a hood.

4) **Sisterhood of the Traveling Panties** (not a joke): **Sally Larkins'** parents visited this week as part of a long road trip. Unable to find a Laundromat in the Moosewood, Sally offered to wash their clothes here at the Loaf. Which she did. Happy smiles and goodbyes. A little while later, Sally received a text from mom: "Honey! Thank you sooo much for doing our laundry. So nice of you. But I think some of your underwear got mixed in with our clothes." Sally's response: "Impossible. I didn't wash any of my clothes." Dun, dun, DUHN. Mrs. Larkins, having the kind of integrity it takes to raise a woman of Sally's caliber, promptly stopped at a post office in New Hampshire and mailed the wayward underclothes back here. So. If you are missing three pairs of underwear, described simply yet identifiably to me as, "Purple. Zebras. Bunnies," you can reclaim your unmentionables by breadnetting Sally Larkin or, more anonymously, putting a note in her box to set up a blind drop or something. As an aside, I think we should all be wearing more clothing under or over, with happy animals on them.

Rae-sing the bar - Stories new and stories old, but what brings it home is stories told. Rachel Jennings:

Have you ever wondered what would happen if you took "the chilliest guy in the Valley" with his LA-artisan-pizza game, a Haitian woman who learns a truth she'll never repeat behind the doors of a library, Mary Shelley's step-sister, a neighbor and a truck driver in a diner who've become entwined in a tragedy, and a priest who can't stop thinking about the Immaculate Orgasm—and brought them all together? Ever wonder if you are the only person to order bacon on the first four dates? Ever been friends, lovers, countrypeople, happy acquaintances with any and/or all members of **Rae Paris' Fiction Writing class**? If so (or if not), please join the members of Rae Paris' Fiction Writing seminar in a reading of the work we've been writing, rewriting, and workshopping all summer. Each member of the class will share a part of our recent fiction, and we would love for you to be a part of the experience. **Blue Parlor, 4pm, Sunday, August 3rd**. What better way to work up an appetite for the Sunday Sundae bar than to revel in the fiction of friends?

Rock Me Mama, as the time unreels, Rock Me Mama in a way that heals

Monday, August 4th, around 9:30ish (post-Poetry reading and reception) get your Bread Loaf closure on down at Two Bros. Tavern in Middlebury with emotional, vocal expressions. **Bread Loaf Karaoke**. Crumb-Favorite and original "girl's got pipes" **Suzanne Callis** is organizing. We need to pay the DJ up front and don't have the ready to flow to cover, so please give \$5-\$10 to the envelope at the Front Desk to ensure it happens!!!

Excursion on Saturday to Kingsland Bay State Park w/ MacNair: Kingsland Bay State Park sits on the picturesque shores of Lake Champlain. Visitors can enjoy the picnic areas and historic buildings of the park, or rent a canoe/kayak for an easy paddle around this protected bay. Kingsland Bay State Park has become a favorite spot because of the stunning backdrop of Lake Champlain. Much of the 264 acres, along the shores of the lake, remains as a natural area with scenic trails along the shoreline of Lake Champlain. **The entrance fee to the park is \$3.00 per adult**. Boat rentals start at \$7.50 an hour. **Time: 1:45 right after lunch!** Bring: \$\$\$ for entrance fee & boat rentals, towel, sunscreen, a suit, and walking shoes if you want to use the trails. Sign up at the Front Desk.

The Nature of Things –

The river is still running. Blackbird gliding still. Your heart may be still moving. What will still(s) your will?

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August 1, 2014

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T + C w/ talk-back
Following - 7:45 pm

Lessons and Carols
- Pond, after dark

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Charlie Orr 5K
- 9 am, Pond
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Kingsland Bay w/
MacNair Randall
- leaves 1:45 pm

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The Occasional Robert Frost Society
- 2:00 pm, Blue Parlor w/ Kara McCabe
Troilus and Cressida Discussion
- 3:00 pm, Little Theatre
Rae Paris' Fiction Writing Reading
- 4:00 pm, Blue Parlor
Blue Parlor Reading - 7:15 pm

Monday 8/4

Poetry Workshop Readings
- 7 pm, Barn
Directing Workshop Scenes
- 7 pm, Little Theatre
BL Karaoke Night
- 9:30ish, Two Bros.

Goeth Into Stomacheth:

Lunch: Mac + cheese!! Hot dogs w/
"Michigan" sauce (drizzle of broken
bureaucracy?), Swiss chard, stewed
ginger chickpeas w/ eggplant,
spinach, tomatoes, potatoes

Dinner: Grilled Balsamic Chicken,
Scalloped potatoes, BoomKale,
mushrooms, onions w/ white beans,
rst'd summer squash and zucchini w/
fresh basil, tossed salad

Athena's Wash Day:

Totally gorgeous. 79
degrees. Clear, exquisite
sunshine. Perfect day for a
wedding, whether between two
loved friends (my afternoon),
or two texts or two carefully
worded arguments. A wedding
between you and river. A
synthesis of abstractions, a
nuptial of metaphors
(metaphorical nuptial?), the
valley of strawberries and
cream, milk and honey, the
resurrection of bones, trees
trees, trees.

26.1 / 15.5 C
79 / 60 F



Departure slip. Departure slip. Departure slip.
Tomorrow and tomorrow and tomorrow.
Forget. Forget. Forget.
No! No! No!
After tea and cakes and ices,
Force the moment to its crisis!
Now! Now! Now!
Do I dare depart the universe?
In a summer there is time...

Troilus and Cressida tonight with talkback to follow

Get your Greek and Trojan hero on and watch the talent light
up the night in the Little Theatre this evening starting at **7:45 pm**.
Remember to catch Lloyd Miller and the BL Singers at **7:30 pm**, just
prior to the show. Following the performance tonight, hang for 20
minutes or so for Q&A with Director Brian McEleney and the rest of
the ensemble to hear how they approached a play with the potential to
be quite problematic and find out why they made the bold and
committed choices they did. Get a window into the critical and creative
process that goes into designing Shakespeare for pleasure, for point, for
persuasion in a modern context.

Saturday Excursion to Kingsland Bay State Park w/ MacNair:

Kingsland Bay State Park sits on the picturesque shores of Lake
Champlain. Visitors can enjoy the picnic areas and historic buildings of
the park, or rent a canoe/kayak for an easy paddle around this protected
bay. Kingsland Bay State Park has become a favorite spot because of the
stunning backdrop of Lake Champlain. Much of the 264 acres, along the
shores of the lake, remains as a natural area with scenic trails along the
shoreline of Lake Champlain. **The entrance fee to the park is \$3.00 per
adult.** Boat rentals start at \$7.50 an hour. **Time: 1:45 right after lunch!**
Bring: \$\$\$ for entrance fee & boat rentals, towel, sunscreen, a suit, and
walking shoes if you want to use the trails. Sign up at the Front Desk.

Crumb and Found – making progress!

- 1) **Chris McCurry** is still missing his external hard drive. It's in a black case 2 by 4 inches. Worth half to three quarters of his heart. Is bad situation. Let's go cosmos!
- 2) **Maggie Bykowski**: Reunited with fleece!! Hurray peoples!!!
- 3) **Jessica Ko**: Black NorthFace jacket w/ "jacked up" lining still at large.

All the Emperor's New Heather Plum

Today is the last day to pick up your BL t-shirt from Kate, 12-2 outside the Inn. If you've been putting off laundry like I have, you probably really need it right now. Hey everyone, BL t-shirt wearing laundry party tomorrow afternoon? 2ish? Laundry house. Heather Plum v. Heather Gray. Dodgeball with wadded-up pages of critical theory essays? BOOM! You just got Bloomed! Nice t-shirt though...Can I use your detergent?

Rae Paris' Fiction Writing Workshop Reading this Sunday. Take us there Rachel Jennings:

Have you ever wondered what would happen if you took "the chilliest guy in the Valley" with his LA-artisan-pizza game, a Haitian woman who learns a truth she'll never repeat behind the doors of a library, Mary Shelley's step-sister, a neighbor and a truck driver in a diner who've become entwined in a tragedy, and a priest who can't stop thinking about the Immaculate Orgasm—and brought them all together? Ever wonder if you are the only person to order bacon on the first four dates? Ever been friends, lovers, countrypeople, happy acquaintances with any and/or all members of **Rae Paris' Fiction Writing class**? If so (or if not), please join the members of Rae Paris' Fiction Writing seminar in a reading of the work we've been writing, rewriting, and workshopping all summer. Each member of the class will share a part of our recent fiction, and we would love for you to be a part of the experience. **Blue Parlor, 4pm, Sunday, August 3rd**. What better way to work up an appetite for the Sunday Sundae bar than to revel in the fiction of friends?

Gazelle Charade Workshop - Charlie Orr 5K tomorrow morning at 9:00 am

Channel your inner wildebeest, buffalo, jackalope, fox, elk, insert other hoofed nomadic quadruped here tomorrow morning for the race to end all races, for the Chariot of Fire, for the laurel crown of mithril, for glory, ladies and gentlemen, GLORY. Starts at the pond with a click of a watch and then for the next however many agonizing minutes while it feels like time's stopped, you are but a leaf on the wind. Watch out for me hiding in the trees with Jason mask to scare you! (I'm not actually doing that. So if that happens to you, RUN because it's prob real.)

Robert's Ghost Goes Stir-Crazy in Drinking Cabin, Visits Atmosphere and Pond

Our dear friend Robert has been out and about lately hasn't he? Briefly inhabiting the esteemed Mr. Muldoon for a pinch of fire last night, having his fun at our expense with a little hail yesterday. Have your own Frost-in-body experience by attending the Sunday meeting of the Occasional Robert Frost Society in the **Blue Parlor at 2pm**. "Earth's the right place for love. I don't know where it's likely to go better." He can be so sweet.

Remember to chip in at the Front Desk for BL Karaoke Night on Monday!!! \$5-\$10 Thanks Suzanne!

While we're talking the flow before you go...

Before you take off back to the land of bricks and mortar, leaving the meadow of muslin and dreams, please take a second and think on how different your life would have been this summer without the awesome people on the housekeeping staff. They do their jobs well, every day, and with a smile. Please be generous if you can in leaving a little something something in the envelopes at the Front Desk as a gesture of thanks, not so much for doing their jobs, but for how they do them. Same goes for waitstaff, though, as a waitstaff member (full disclosure) it feels weird to actively solicit. Sorry other waitstaff peoples, no poetic plea. Thanks team.

The Nature of Things

"The figure is the same as for love." Love is a poem. Yes. Can a cup be a poem? Does it depend on sunlight? Angle of refraction. Does cup become poem only in interaction with its own shadow? What do they speak to each other, I wonder? What poem is written in the white enameled countertop upon which the shadow is drawn? Drawn together. "The figure is the same as for love." My chest full of grass a poem. Your rumpled dress. The dew-damp beige blanket a heap to be leapt over on my morning floor. The heat of the tea. The steam taking it's leave, leaving some physical bits behind but stealing the spirit. The brimming. The chipped edge always turned away from the mouth. The figure of prescience for the nanosecond I have already drank the tea and am feeling its chamomiley effects before its radiant weight rests once again, full, still possible, in my hands. Having, having had, having not yet had. The figure.

The Crumb

The Daily Bulletin of the Bread Loaf School of English in Vermont

Volume 95, Number 29

August 4, 2014

Events, Occurrences, Happenings, Developments, Situational Phenomena

Monday 8/4

Poetry Workshop Readings
- 7 pm, Barn
Directing Workshop Scenes
- 7 pm, Little Theatre
BL Karaoke Night?
- 9:30ish, Two Bros.

Tuesday 8/5

A Pond Lesson and Fire Carol
- John's Pond, after dark

Wednesday 8/6

Senior Cruise
- afternoon, Burlington

Thursday 8/7

Tweed River Tubing
- 1:00 pm, Stockbridge, VT
Chipman Inn Senior
Reception
- 7:30 pm, Ripton

Salad Hanger:

Lunch: Salad Days. Grilled Chicken, Grilled red peppers + zucchini, Mushroom-white bean salad, Warm potato salad, Caesar salad (Et tu, Romaine?), Salad Bar

Dinner: Hanger steak (Apparently the "hanger" is a highly prized cut coming from the diaphragm musculature around a steer's lungs, sometimes known as "butcher's steak" b/c the butcher would keep it for him/herself - Not called "hanger" b/c it makes you hangry.), Pork Fried Rice, Fried Tofu, Rst'd sesame broccoli

J. Alfred Whatnow?

Let us go then, you and I, when the mo(u)rning clouds are spread against the sky, like the lobotomized draft of my paper on the table, where the 94% humidity rubs its wuzzle btw my shirt and skin, where the high is 75 and low known by Dante, where the room is come and go of Faulkner and Foucault and I measure out my life in thundry afternoons. And how do I presume when 40% chance of precip looms? Is it the wind's variable breath that makes me so digress? (3 mph) I should have been a pair of ragged slacks or a much more sensible dress. Do I dare predict the universe? In a minute there is time for downpour and sunshine which a minute will reverse. I grow cold...I grow cold (57 F). I will keep the bottoms of my pants unrolled. Do I dare eat a plum? I have seen the juices run from chin to floorboard, driptapping like a drum. I have seen the rain riding skyward in waves, 'til thoughtful 'brellas open, and we're saved. 23.8/13.8 C 75/57F

Tracy K. Smith and Paul Muldoon Poetry Workshop Readings

The pulse of poetry has been vital this summer. You can feel it growing up through the milkweed stalks in the meadows, reverberating through the floorboards and teacups in the dining hall, watching us with rhythm like a waxing gibbous moon. And I've only had the lightest taste. Gather in **the Barn tonight at 7:00 pm** to hear the work produced by such peerless peers this session. Lean in to Ghazals and Courage Poems. Listen to the "little songs." The poetry is the concentration of our community. Find what's ours in ars. The pressure per square inch.

Alan MacVey's Directing Workshop Performs Scenes Tonight

Performance! Feelings! Drama! The Real Stuff. Also **tonight at 7:00 pm**, come to **The Little Theatre** to watch a series of short scenes featuring Bread Loafers directed by members of the Director's Workshop. The scenes are about 20 mins each, and you may enter or exit in between. Woody Allen to *Antigone*, power struggle to liberating identity, here is where it gets human. You also just may spot yours truly w/ Kate Hennigan in *The Mercy Seat* (Repeated shameless abuse of media monopoly). The sched as follows:

7:00 - *Slavs*, by Tony Kushner - Dir by Robyn Horn
7:20 - *The Mercy Seat*, by Neil LaBute - Dir by Chris McCurry
7:45 - *Rabbit Hole* by David Lindsay-Abaire - Dir by Sarah Olson
8:10 - *Death Knocks* by Woody Allen - Dir by Joanne Knox
8:20 - *Antigone* by Sophocles - Dir by Shelton Windham

Power to the People - A dollar in the hand worth two mics in the...

Bread Loaf "So You Think You Can Dougie Champion" Suzanne Callis has done all the legwork to set up BL Karaoke tonight at Two Bros. but, problematically, we as a group are only 1/3 of the way there on coming up with the dough. **Need the dough, Loaf. Need the dough.** If you are planning to attend (ALL OF YOU!), do your part by dropping some ducats in the envelope at the Front Desk as soon as you can. Boom.

Speaking of the leavening... Seniors, please pay for your Graduation stuff at the Front desk! Banquet, rooms, etc. via Victoria Browne.

ChampWatch: Thar she blows! Senior Cruise on the *Pequo-Spirit of Ethan Allen* on Lake Champlain

Sharpen your harpoons. Folks, if you are going on the Cruise, please swing by Elaine's office to sign a release form. Bread Loaf will not be responsible for anyone falling into a whale's head and sinking to the bottom of the lake, nor for injuries sustained during swan-dive cutlass rescues, no matter how totally BA. If you have not responded to the invitation to the Cruise, please take the time to do so. Fate? Starbuck? Call me.

Speaking of Wednesday – Sergei needs a ride to BTV

Hey, so there's probs like a bunch of people headed north and stuff on Wednesday for the, like, cruise? It would be totally cool if Sergei could snag a ride up there and get a little dropsy at the airport. Flight doesn't leave 'til like 7 pm, but whenever you're heading up is cool. Save a man \$100 cab ride? Coordinate through the Front Desk. Thanks Loafers. **More Rideshare:** If anyone needs a ride to the airport **tomorrow morning**, email Leslie Howes at howesla@gmail.com – Leslie is leaving around **7:45 am**. Excellent conversationalist!

BOOKSTORE SALE! Monday – Thursday, 20% off clothing, books, and giftware!

Your Daily Griesbach: Seniors! Sign up for all events ASAP. Sign Up Sheets located at Front Desk. Sign ups close Tuesday after dinner; Chipman Inn Reception Sign Ups Close TONIGHT! **EVERYONE:** Please submit any and all pictures you have of seniors from over the years for the slideshow we are putting together for after graduation. You may submit pictures to Conor Maguire at redsox198233@gmail.com

Unraveling Lockes – Upholding Social Contracts

Heyo, if you are one of the 0.01% of Bread Loafers who actually has a key to your room, please return it to the Front Desk ere departure. Remember, when we leave, our rooms should be *tabula rasa*. Theory in Mind.

Creeping up Bloom's...Taxonomy

Take a break from wrestling with Harold or imagining your way up Molly or 'Poldy's tweed-covered and get your **Evaluation** on. Elaine requests that all students please complete their Course and Program evaluation and return them in good order. This is super-helpful to the people here that spend their year getting ready to help you have the most optimal summer experience possible. Using your Voice, ladies and gentlemen, to make your world. **Also**, if you have not yet reenrolled for next year, do so!!!

My books are larger than my stomach!

If you need to ship boxes back home that won't fit in packed cars or overhead compartments, the Front Desk can help! You must supply the box, whatever's going in it (obvi), and the packing tape and stuff. Essentially, package has to be "mail-ready" and then Front Desk will expedite its journey. Check in at the Bookstore for tape and things! And no, your new pet groundhog Rufus cannot come home with you. Because.

Accounting for Mouths – If you are staying past the end of classes and will be eating in the dining hall, please check in at the Front Desk. You need to make a reservation. And no, I will not seat you in that jacket. Puce?

Testify – What did this summer mean to you? Best anecdote? Inspiration looking ahead?

So we've got some room in the Crumb coming up...that is if you guys still want a daily Crumb after Tuesday? Thoughts? Necessary? One thing I was thinking of would be to publish some BL Testimonials, Riffs, Deep Thoughts, Stories, etc. Write to me at joliver@breadnet.middlebury.edu with your summer in a couple paragraphs or less (unless it's really really sweet and necessitates longer form) and I'll put stuff in where it fits. No guarantee of publication, but it seems like a nice thing. I may also make some up and attribute them to famous literary characters or the strange woodland creatures inhabiting my imagination. I encourage you to do the same. Bread Loaf Missing Connections? Speak not soft for fear of my paper heart. Shun not the burn.

The Nature of Things – Quicksand is a colloid hydrogel consisting of fine granular material (such as sand or silt), clay, and water. Quicksand forms in saturated loose sand when the sand is suddenly agitated. When water in the sand cannot escape, it creates a liquefied soil that loses strength and cannot support weight. Quicksand can form in standing water or in upwards flowing water (as from an artesian spring). Quicksand is a non-Newtonian fluid: when undisturbed, it often appears to be solid ("gel" form), but a minor (less than 1%) change in the stress on the quicksand will cause a sudden decrease in its viscosity. Where is your quicksand? Who liquefies you? What might you envelop? How deadly are your truths and illusions? What panics, drawing itself deeper, to the bottom?

The Crumb

The Daily Bulletin of the Bread Loaf School of English in Vermont

Volume 95, Number 30

August 5, 2014

Events, Occurrences, Happenings, Developments, Situational Phenomena

Tuesday 8/5

A Pond Lesson and Fire Carol
- John's Pond, after dark

Wednesday 8/6

Senior Cruise
- afternoon, Burlington

Thursday 8/7

Tweed River Tubing
- 1:00 pm, Stockbridge, VT

Chipman Inn Senior
Reception
- 7:30 pm, Ripton

Friday 8/8

???????
Exciting!

Our Daily Bread:

Lunch: Roast Beef on French bread
w/ gruyere cheese (omg), Greek
veggie wrap, onion rings, garden
bulgurwheat salad

Dinner: Lamb Burgers on wheat
rolls, Falafel w/ tzatziki sauce,
spanakopita (just like my grandma
used to make...well, still does ☺),
roast'd asparagus

Agrumble:

Warm, humid, and
thunderstorms VERY likely today.
80% + chance. The lightning strikes
like a cosmically beautiful idea. The
thunder grumble like the revision
that follows, sounding out the flaws,
unraveling epiphany in a flood of
details, letting you know you have
not, in fact, invented the wheel.

Does the weather care how we
feel? (No, but, indulge...) Is the
storm working to keep us here, in
league with our inner desires,
subconscious conspiracy, cabal?

Or is the weather the least
meaning-full of phenomena? Nothing
but chaos? What do we know about
nothing but chaos?

The pressure is 29.95 inches.

The moon is two-thirds full.

Snow depth: 0.

Heart: Full to the tiptop.

25 / 13.33 C

77 / 56 F



Seniors: Crosby Cruise Info

Hey there gradumacationists, if you need info on the cruise tomorrow, departure time, driving directions, carpooling, attire, etc, please get in touch with DA and Crumb favorite Kate Crosby. She's your lady for all the maybes.

There will be fire, words. Fireward!

Come on down to the pond tonight around 9:30ish for a final read aloud, think aloud. A reader of significant public standing has been engaged. This is not a BL-planned thing, so BYO. Let the dark wood ring. Let it glow with our thicknesses. Turn the forest scarlet.

Ducats Due

Seniors, please pay for your Graduation stuff at the Front desk! Banquet, rooms, etc. via Victoria Browne.

Non-standard mementos (not the crazy tattoo-memory movie kind, though that film was pretty sweet the first time...)

You may still buy the old paddle-shaped desk chairs from the Barn classrooms! \$1 – all you have to do is take it with you. Put it on your porch. Make it a conversation piece. Ooooo, a "telephone seat." Remember those? Use it as a non-conventional bookshelf. Stick carpet remnants on it and make it a plaything for cats. Get imaginative.

The slip

I wear silk - the cover to uncover –

because silk is what I want you to think of.

But I dislike the cloth. It is too stern.

Thanks Anne Sexton. Needed that. Please keep your **Departure Slips** coming in to the Front Desk so staff can coordinate the whatnow and the heretofore and the et cetera. Thank you!

I burn the way money burns.

Sergei? Wednesday Ride?

I have no idea if Sergei has locked down a ride yet. Sergei? If he hasn't, please get in touch with the Front Desk or find Sergei himself. Thanks Loafbus. Getting it done for all the peoples.

BOOKSTORE SALE! Today – Thursday, 20% off clothing, books, and giftware!

Charlie Orr Runners, this Crumb Editor, asleep while you were being all fit and impressive, salutes you.

Congratulations to 1st place finisher **Josh Bloom** with a time of **21:56**, 2nd place finisher **Micky Lenzi** with a time of **22:41**, and 3rd place finisher **Kate Crosby** (lady can RUN) with a time of **23:01**. Special Crumb shout out to my pick for next year's winner, **Oliver Green-Lewis**, who flew in just a minute behind Kate with a **24:01**. Way to go Ollie. And all!

Evaluationistas

Open email. Search: "Elaine." Find Program Evaluation form. Take a sip of coffee. Nibble scone. Write your name. scratch your leg with your favorite blue pen that doesn't write so well but is perfect for leg-scratching so you keep it around. Power through eval in a sudden torrent of unbelievably grammatically accurate and even somewhat syntactically elegant sentences that truly can only occur after a summer of writing Bread Loaf papers. Finish. Reflect for a moment on how far into the Fall this superhuman ability to articulate will last. Regret a bit the simpler diction of many of your nearest and dearest back home. Hate yourself a little for thinking it. Forgive. Use your leg-scratching pen to write several ideas for reading/writing/discussion projects you will pursue independently this year to keep your mind in gear. Understand you will only do a fraction of them and watch more television on the internet than you would like. Try not to write a narrative of your perfect version of yourself. It's just you projecting. On you. Smile ruefully. Think about how nice it would be to get Elaine and Karen some flowers. Hit send.

Sawdust on the Road

Hey all. Some of you may have noticed there was a traffic accident on 125 this morning. Some BL vehicles parked along the side were damaged. Just wanna say to everyone hitting the road today to travel safe. Love.

Inside the Box

Get your sh—stuff shipshape, strapped, addressed, stamped? and taped and bring it to the Front Desk. Ahoy. There are fine vellums and glassworks, sacred oils and myrrh, several one-of-a-kind imaginings trapped in stoppered bottles, an elephant the size of a cat, the moon, your beloved, hemlock needles from between your sheets, the neat reply that stunned the talkative to silence that you actually thought of and delivered in the moment, rather than hours later in the shower alone. The shower you did not take alone. Loss, memory, desire. A mug. Something unclaimed. Almosts. A tin can full of twisted bits labeled: "String too short to be saved." Yes, you've been in New England. And yes, it's coming with you. A broken headstone. The clover you found-pressed in the book. An orange, not to eat, but so the first sensation you receive miles and miles from here upon opening will be citrus-scented, an offering.

Crumb tomorrow?

If folks breadnet me with stuff, I'll make a Crumb. If not, maybe not. Maybe mini-Crumb. Maybe a full page of self-indulgent rambling. The code to my mailbox, perhaps, which I will then extensively and aggressively booby-trap. A recipe for baking understanding. The antidote for desire and a method for avoiding antidotes. The Charybdis of Devotion and the Scylla of Doubt. Dean Young. A decade of poemlets snowing down on little scraps of paper shaken out from a high window. All the misfit toys. Charles Simic or something even more enigmatic. A Switzerland of investigative reporting. The truth behind the light. The tennis court clay smudged above your lip and cheekbone. The dinner knife thrust into the yard. And thirst. Thirst. The alltoomuchofit.

The Nature of Things – A Dark Genesis: *And yet we have not seen pure Nature, unless we have seen her thus vast and dread and inhuman. Nature was here something savage and awful, though beautiful. I looked with awe at the ground I trod on, to see what the Powers had made there, the form and fashion and material of their work. This was that Earth of which we have heard, made out of Chaos and Old Night. Here was no man's garden, but the unhandselled globe. There was there felt the presence of a force not bound to be kind to man.*

- Henry David Thoreau, *Ktaadn*.

The Crumb

The Daily Bulletin of the Bread Loaf School of English in Vermont

Volume 95, Number 31

August 8, 2014

Events, Occurrences, Happenings, Developments, Situational Phenomena

Graduation Imminent! Return your library books or face the malmsy!

I have set my life upon a cast, And I will stand the hazard of the die.

To the Teeth:

Lunch: Turkey Tacos (so tasty, yet so lean), Enchilada pie, sautéed corn, peppers, and black beans, Spanish rice, green beans, squash

Dinner: Chicken Vindaloo (tomato-based curry business, often with potatoes), Tomato chutney, Mango chutney (etymological tidbit: "chutney" comes from Hindi and is derived from the Sanskrit word *caṇī*, meaning "to lick." Yes, please.) Channa Dal (curried yellow split peas), Basmati rice, cauliflower w/ peas and tomatoes

Double Helix: 73/52 F

Today's weather is a stable equilibrium, a marriage of need and circumstance, a synthesis of the glorious and the sane. How to be so awed by the world and yet retain the capacity to walk through it, to awe it with the passage of you?

High pressure (30.03 in) will maintain a bubble of clarity around Ripton for the next four days. Chance of precip less than 10% (the die is cast!). Some scattered clouds and the wind from the North-Northwest at 7 mph. Never doubt the direction.

Wind and water flow chaotically, follow complex paths and patterns that defy analysis or prediction. No matter where they are, they are simultaneously the same wind, same water, and also unique to their spaces and identities. You can't worry the weather into being. Every drop gets where it's going. Every rock is wind-kissed today. (Metaphor.)

Logistics for the Mystics, Whimsy for the Already Packed

!) Remember to pick up your **regalia** at the Bookstore before it closes today at 4:30 pm!! All gowns and hoods are rented (unless you wanna shell out for cloth itself) and will be returned to the DAs at the post-graduation reception in the Barn.

@) Ducats and Debts – Leave well met. Please check in at the Front Desk to make sure all your graduation-related and other bills are paid up before joining Reepicheep in his little coracle boat, sailing as only the boldest of all mice can, into the mist at the edge of the world.

#) Tomorrow's lunch, to which all families, friends, and other guests of various relational nomenclature are invited, will be a picnic taking place on the West Lawn of the Inn (the usual spot). First prize to the person who composes the most stirring *Ode to the Black Bean Burger*. All lunches at Bread Loaf from now until the Day of Judgment and perhaps beyond will, of course, begin at **12:45 pm**. And beyond lunch, who knows...

\$) A plea to sweep your rooms (eyes not brooms) for personal possessions ere the final departure. Please leave nothing behind as the housekeeping staff have to flip all these spaces in preparation for the arrival of the Writer's Conference. My family called it the "Idiot Check." Hunt for Socks Under the Bed. Find that one clean shirt you never wore all summer in the back of the drawer. Smile. Put it on. Look in the mirror. Rediscover why you never wear that shirt. Wrestle with the question of whether or not to just toss the damn thing. Donate? Who gave it to you? Why are you so attached to *things*? Become overwhelmed by the pounding of the housekeeping staff banging on the door demanding that you unlock it so that they can please, please, please just clean it and go home. Refuse to acknowledge the graduation was now close to 47 hours ago. Eat your last bag of curried almonds. Remember your phone charger under the desk, the pen on the windowsill, the degree of humanity that was simultaneously most human and most super- this summer. Shape that super-you into a dream dolphin. Attach your emo-saddle and bags. Ride your dream dolphin clear through the window, after Reepicheep, after glory, after simple, after you leave a tip at the Front Desk, after the all this now too much for us, after the Fall, after tomorrow, tomorrow, tomorrow.

Walking off now into the gloaming...

Victoria Brown will be posting the seating chart for the Graduation Banquet sometime this evening outside the dining hall so you can see where you and yours'll be tomorrow night.

Folks are going tubing today...getting gorge-ous.

The puns are drying up. They crackle and ravel like last year's autumn leaves.

There is a blackbird in my throat.

Sunday breakfast will be the final meal served in the Dining Hall.

"Out! Out!"

The curve of the edge of the teacup I shall now return to the Inn contains the Distance to the Moon.

Brains Love Books. And Wind. And Sun. And Chance of Rain. Brains love finding and losing. *Maybe leaving people is a way of loving them.* Brains love pattern and difference. Brains Love Song.

Something there is that doesn't love to Fall.

Three misty mornings and one rainy day will rot the best birch fence a man can build.

Reception to follow Graduation in the Barn. Prepare to Receive.

Breathe.

The End of Experience is a Namibian Desert, an Oasis of Memory, a Font of Desire, a Fiction.

Longing, we say, because desire is full of endless distances.

The Nature of Things – Leaving and taking.

The Dam

While the others sat encircled
by the edge of the lake
out-competing the birds
for chatting,
I slipped off my shoes
and crept away
toward the brush.

I followed the natural path,
a strip of concrete laid
ages enough ago to forget
it was planned, more lichen
and moss than fixed sand
stood bare alone, almost enough
to think it stone.

The sound of a thousand bees worked on
the air around the narrow track,
near o'errun by milkpod stalks
adorned in failing purple puffs of bloom;
not one waved wing or leg at my
intrusion in their home.

Next, the fern, so green it still retained
some morning gold, and finally
the shade that glows so darkly
under trees that live in old thicknesses,
where there's never been a road.
Just a long moment, seven breaths perhaps,
I stood within the wild, quaking wood.
That was enough, for now, then. I took with me what I could.